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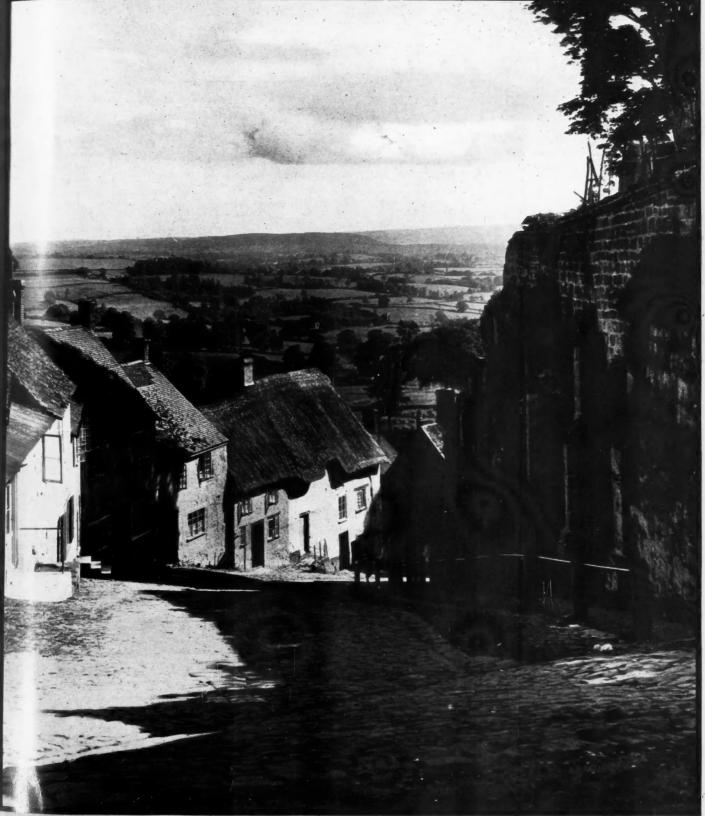
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COUNTRY LIFE

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THE MANSION HOUSE stands

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VALUABLE FREEHOLD ESTATE ON THE FRINGE OF THE COTSWOLDS.

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4 reception rooms, parquet floors. "Aga"
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in spiendid order, having 3 reception, 7 bedrooms (3 with basins, in. & c.), 2 bathrooms, well-arranged domestic offices.

Main electricity and water. Central heating. Garage for 3 Stabling for 5.

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Within easy reach of the station with a splendid service of electric trains to Town in about 35 minutes. To be Sold
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WATER SUPPLY, GARAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS,
Beautiful grounds, tennis court, sunk lawn, rock and
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UNUSUALLY CHARMING SMALL GEORGIAN HOUSE (entirely upon 2 floors). TO BE LET UNFURNISHED. 3 reception, 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Electricity. Central heating. Plentiful water. Garage and gardener's cottage. PLEASURE GROUNDS A FEATURE, well secluded and protected by 15 ACRES of PARK-LIKE PASTURE.

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THIS ATTRACTIVE HOUSE with oak-panelled hall, 3 reception, 4 double bedrooms, modern bathroom. Double garage.

GROUNDS OF 1/2 ACRE.

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3 sitting rooms and garden room, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

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Within 12 miles of Hyde Park Corner, yet in beautiful open country on the fringe of two large commons and well-known woods. Bus route within 50 yards and 1 mile from Tube terminus.

THIS UNIQUE SPECIMEN OF QUEEN ANNE ARCHITECTURE

WITH LOVELY OAK BEAMS AND PERIOD PANELLING.

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ALL MAIN SERVICES. 4-ROOMED COTTAGE (LET).

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A RESIDENTIAL AND SPORTING GENTLEMAN'S FARM OF ABOUT 2,000 ACRES, WITH ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

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8 FARMS, 2 CROFTS AND COTTAGES.

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Leases bind tenants to maintain farm buildings, drainage and fencing in good order during period of tenancy.

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A REALLY GOOD HOUSE OF CHARACTER. Must be up to date and have main services. \$10 bedrooms, 3/4 bathrooms, etc. Nice matured gardens and about 30-100 ACRES. WEST SUSSEX preferred or rural SURREY, BERKS, BUCKS, \$20,000 is Available. Details and photos to Capt. B., c/o Wilson AND Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1.

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Occupying a really magnificent position.

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CONDITION WITH EVERY
MODERN COMFORT.

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7 bedrooms, 3 reception, good offices.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE. AMPLE OUT-BUILDINGS.

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London 36 miles (main line).

THE GENUINE TUDOR [COTTAGE, "MONKS STAITHE," thoroughly
reconditioned and with modern conveniences. 2-3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2reception
rooms, sun parlour, pantry and kitchen. Garage with room over. Pleasant garden \(^1\) acre.
Secluded position yet near the town and within 10 minutes of station. To be Sold by
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Adjacent to favourite old-world village, 400 ft. above sea level, and under 30 miles from

A COMPACT RESIDENTIAL ESTATE

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THE WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE

7 principal bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 5 reception rooms.

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In all about

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VACANT POSSESSION OF THE HOUSE AND GROUNDS.

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4 miles North of Midhurst.

VALUABLE MIXED FARM

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1½ miles Trout fishing. SHOOTING OVER 174 ACRES, and UP TO 1,500 ACRES

IF WANTED. Pheasant, woodcock and wild duck. Beautiful situation.



DEVON. Charming Stone-built Residence
6 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception.
Electric light. Gravitation water.
Pretty gardens. Hard court.
Stabling. Excellent farm buildings.
Cowhouse tying 17. 80 ACRES,
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Or with 20 Acres £3,300 Immediate Inspection Advised. The Furniture may be bought if desired.

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THIS REALLY PERFECT LITTLE PLACE—A SUN TRAP

Granite built and in perfect order.
Exceptionally well equipped.
Lounge hall, 3 reception, 5 bedrooms (fitted basins), bathroom.
All-electric kitchen, etc. Co.'s
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3 ACRES
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FREEHOLD £3.750 IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.



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Lounge hall, 2 large reception, sun room, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath-rooms, offices. All Companies' mains. Part central heating.

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About 500 ft. up, facing South, with pleasing prospect over surrounding country.

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MAIN WATER AND ELECTRICITY. GARAGE.
WORKSHOP. GARDENER'S COTTAGE WITH

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MATURED GARDENS, paddock of about 5 ACRES, and an area of woodland, in all about

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15 ACRES FREEHOLD £5,500

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12 miles Sevenoaks, amidst delightful rural scenery, about 400 ft. up. 45 minutes by rail from Town.

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Garage. Cottage.

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SMALL HOLDINGS, WOODLANDS, ACCOMMODATION LAND, COTTAGES,

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VERY ATTRACTIVE MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE

COMPLETE WITH ALL CONVENIENCES AND COMFORTS.

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DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS, FINE OLD YEW HEDGES, LAWNS, KITCHEN GARDEN, PADDOCKS.

11 ACRES IN ALL

COST PRESENT OWNER £16,000

BUT CONSIDERABLY LESS WOULD BE ACCEPTED.

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Comprising a beautiful house containing 15 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Complete domestic offices.

Main water and drainage. Private electric lighting plant. Central heating. Aga cooker.

2 GARDENERS' COTTAGES. GARAGES, CHAUFFEURS' ROOMS. STORE-ROOMS. GLASSHOUSES.

SMALL SECONDARY HOUSE LET AT £72 PER ANNUM

DELIGHTFUL GROUNDS, INCLUDING LAWNS, FLOWER AND KITCHEN GARDENS, WATER GARDEN, MEADOW LAND IN ALL ABOUT

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THERE IS A DOLCIS SHOE STORE IN EVERY LARGE TOWN

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. XCIV No. 2426

JULY 16, 1943



Harlip

LADY LOVAT

Lady Lovat, who is the only daughter of the late Sir Delves Broughton, by his first marriage, and of Lady Broughton, was married in 1938 to Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Lovat, D.S.O., M.C., of Beaufort Castle, Beauly, Inverness-shire. They have a son and two daughters

COUNTRY LIFE

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The fact that goods made of raw materials in short supply owing to war conditions are advertised in Country Life should not be taken as an indication that they are necessarily available for export

THE DEMOCRATIC LONDON

HE æsthetic aspect of the replanning of London has been displayed by the Royal Academy, and the up-to-date theory that should underlie it by the Royal Institute of British Architects. are unofficial suggestions taking as their starting point the Ministry of Transport's traffic plan contained in the Bressey Report. The L.C.C. plan for the County of London, now to be seen at County Hall and published by Macmillan (12s. 6d.), represents a great step forward to definition; for, although it is "advisory" and described as "indicative" in many respects, the Council is the statutory planning authority for the whole area outside the City. Although greatly enlarged powers, both legal and financial, are needed to carry it out, depending on the Government's policy with regard to reconstruction, transport, finance, and the recommendations of the Barlow, Uthwatt, and Scott Reports, this plan does represent the considered proposals for the future of the capital of the Empire adopted by its statutory authority. such, it has been eagerly awaited, and the Council is to be congratulated in the first place for thus courageously publishing its proposals.

It is a plan worthy of its great subject. Drastic yet, in the best sense, conservative, wide in scope yet comprehensive in detail, providing both for immediate needs and long-term aspirations. While incorporating many of the specialised recommendations of the R.A and R.I.B.A. plans, it reflects English common sense and the essentially sound, methodical mentality of the L.C.C. Its authors, to whom and their assistants Lord Latham pays merited tribute, are Mr. J. H. Forshaw, Architect to the Council, and Professor Patrick Abercrombie, its adviser on planning. The latter is well known, and his felicity of phrase and touch is clearly apparent. In Mr. Forshaw, who made his reputation through his brilliant work in connection with pit-head baths, it is now evident that London has gained another brilliant and sympathetic personality and a planner of outstanding ability.

The principal proposals are described on pages 106-8 of this issue. But what, in a few words, is to be the general nature of the new London? It can be described as an expression of the Atlantic Charter, a metropolis conceived for a community with little discrepancy of income, in which the old disparities of West and East are smoothed out in the interests of the whole, the different groups of society mingle more freely, yet local geographical distinctions are cultivated. The vision presented is of a demo-cratic London supplied with its requirements as graciously as was Georgian aristocracy, whose squares and terraces are taken by

the Report as an ideal to be recaptured; and, as a symbol of its new spirit, with London's river the central theme of London's plan.

THE CONTROL OF DESIGN

WHEN Common Councillors urged similar publication of the reconstruction plans for the City, they were told that this was not at present advisable, but that the plans had been submitted to the Royal Fine Arts Commission. The L.C.C. Report recommends "the assistance of some authoritative body" on designs for buildings of national importance, and normally panels of architects for the control of design. Yet, as a matter of course the Government should submit all planning schemes of this importance to the Fine Arts Commission. The recent debate in the House of Lords showed agreement on the need for a central body which, in all matters of public building and planning, would be the ultimate authority for consultation in matters of taste and æsthetics. On the whole, in spite of Lord Wimborne's appeal for a Ministry responsible to Parliament for the cultural side of the national life, those who supported the Commission had the best of the argument. Lord Lee of Fareham, who has been a member of the Commission since its inception. came back, after 20 years of silence, to make a vigorous speech in its defence. On the usual principles of appointment there was no guarantee that a Minister would not be as ignorant of æsthetic considerations as a Hindu of skates. This censure certainly does not apply to the present Commission, than whom, in Lord Portal's opinion, "there could not be a better body of persons and its strength lies in its independence." He promised that the mission's advice would be used to the full by the Government and be available to every local authority. Here an important caveat was entered by Lord Crawford, who asked that authorities would in future save the Commission from embarrassment and apparent futility by consulting them before—and not -local schemes had received publicity and been publicly criticised, and before the authorities themselves had already entered into public commitments.

SHORT SUMMER

How tall the foxglove grows, How swiftly fades the rose When June is past! Swiftly the river flows Into the sea—and fast, How fast, the summer goes! How short the cuckoo's cry! Brought low are grasses high, Too soon, too soon, The lovely lilies die, And, underneath the moon, How still the daisies lie!

PHYLLIS HOWELL.

ONCE UPON A TIME

RECENT Reuter report which was spared five lines in the middle of the war news had the spirit of an oid-fashioned fairy tale of the happier kind. Two penniless Portuguese, bird's-nesting on a mountain-side, had found in a crow's nest 12 golden sovereigns. The finders now own a mule and have set up in business. In the Thames Estuary a gull once dropped a sodden 10: note on the deck of a pleasure steamer, but England's bird-thieves seem usually to content themselves with clothes-pegs, metal plant labels and the tops of milk-bottles. is, however, nothing wildly improbable about the Portuguese story; about 10 years ago, in Bavaria, an eagle took a wad of 90 marks which had been hidden in a wood-pile, and the peasant owner-after a dangerous climb-retrieved 60 marks from the bird's eyrie. A year or two later, in Cawnpore, a monkey stole £800 which had been hidden in a crevice in a ceiling. Gold -both dust and nuggets-has been found in the gizzards of birds and the stomachs of sheep from Scotland to Czecho-Slovakia and British Columbia. But the most exciting stories of animals taking treasure belong to South Africa, where pigeons, domestic hens and wild ostriches have all been known to consume diamonds. The original discovery that wild ostriches sometimes took diamonds for grit was accidental, but there was nothing accidental about the

shooting of more than 10,000 wild ostriches the next six months. One bird was reported to have yielded 53 diamonds, which went doubtless welcome to the shooter even if he wa not a penniless Portuguese with the modes ambition to own a mule and a small busine of his own.

"EXPLOIT AND APPEASEMENT"

OBODY can be better qualified to estimate the seriousness of the Government intention to clear the ground for post-war reco struction and resettlement than the Chairman of the Royal Commission on the basis of whose Report policy has ostensibly been fou ded and commitments made. When ther fore Si Montague Barlow publicly expresses his scepti cism as to the seriousness of the Gove-nment undertakings-as he did at the Conference the Town and Country Planning Associationit is time for the less well-informed ctizen to sit up and take notice. Eighteen mo the age the Government, through Lord Reith, ccepted the ideas of a national planning authority and of a central authority. This was their ustification for setting up yet another new inistry Meanwhile nothing more has been heard of the three other major recommendations of the Commission for continued re-development, decontralisation and a more even i dustrial development. The only rational expanation which suggests itself for this equivocal attitude is the root position occupied by compensation in all such considerations of planning policy, Public bodies are still without powers to acquire land on the 1939 basis recommended by the Uthwatt Committee and there is consequently a complete impasse. Property is changing hands meanwhile and inflation of values continues. Lord Astor tells us that if the Government of Parliament have made up their minds to adopt "a policy of appeasement towards land exploiters" because legislation would be controversial, the public "must indicate at once and in no uncertain manner that such appeasement and delay are far more controversial

WINNING THE TOSS

"HOSE who know their Tom Brown's School Days will remember that in the great Marylebone match the School, having apparently won the toss, put their opponents in first "with the liberality of young hands." That was the age of chivalry indeed, but from some more inscrutable motive the habit of putting the other side in seems to have returned to the world of cricket with one-day matches. Whether this is owing to a usually fallacious trust in the early morning dew or to some more indeterminate process of thought it is difficult to say, but the plan does not seem much more successful in one-day matches than the evidence of history shows it to be over three full days The other day at Lord's the Civil Defence Eleven, comparatively rich in batting but poor in bowling, sent the Royal Air Force in first. The R.A.F. showed their gratitude by making 319 runs for four wickets at a cheerful and refreshing speed and then getting their adversaries out for 234. Superficially it may appear a good thing to "know what you are up against" and be able to act accordingly, but the general run of games does not bear out this reasoning They show rather that he is blessed "who gets his blow in fust" and it is a mistake not to take the goods that the gods have given.

WICKED BARONETS

RECENT letter from the Editor of Debrett suggests that there are a number of bogus baronets going up and down the country seeking whom they may devour. Lovers of Miss Austen will instantly recall Sir Walter Elliot of Kelynch who never opened any book but the Barc selage in which "he found occupation for an idle hour and consolation in a distressed one." Now there is a more practical and exciting use for that admirable work. Baronets in novels have a ways inclined to wickedness, as witness Sir Pe reval Glyde in The Woman in White, who turne lout ntly not to be a baronet at all. Truth is appa at least as strange as fiction and, though it is hard on a respectable body of men, the firs when we meet a baronet must now be to look him up in the book.



A. H. Robinson

HIGH SUMMER, BOW BRIDGE, ELGIN

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

NE of the problems on which it is most difficult to find any two knowledgeable riparian owners in complete agreement is the feasibility and advisability of the various drainage schemes by which it is proposed to lower the levels of our southern rivers for, among other things, the reclamation of water meadows with a view to corn growing. The matter is difficult enough in all conscience without having the issue obscured by class hatred and incorrect statements, and I read recently a most misleading article in a newspaper which laid the entire blame for the waterogged condition of some of these meadows on the shoulders of plutocratic capitalist fishermen, who had ruined good agricultural land in the interest of this "rich man's pastime." The writer of this article was obviously unaware that the holding up of water by means of weirs and hatches dates back long before the days when fishing became a rich man's hobbythe time, in fact, when the angler was regarded as something of a crank, and was usually a poor man who could afford no other form of sport.

I am not sufficiently well informed to know when the water meadow system became general throughout the south of England wherever there was a stream of suitable size for irrigation purposes, but if we seek for the responsibility for the weirs, which one sees on every three or four miles of our rivers, we shall have to go back to the days of Norman William or even Saxon Harold, and the introduction of the water mill to England. Nine-tenths of these mills are unfortunately derelict now, and the weirs used only as eel traps, but if they were working to-day the situation with regard to anim of codstuffs would be infinitely better than is, and the strain on our transport system eased considerably.

every farmer knows, a properly conwater meadow is a most valuable asset, ds as much in essential foodstuffs in the hay and grazing for animals as the same of that quality down to corn. The fact many of these water meadows have vaterlogged and rush-grown is due that the fisherman nor the farmer, but various Governments' neglect of agri-

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Major C. S. JARVIS

culture. The small weirs with their sluice boards need constant attention and repair and the various side channels require clearing out regularly, and, during those shortsighted years of cheap foreign fodder when the farmer's wage bill was not covered by his receipts, the upkeep of water meadows in common with fencing, draining, maintenance of buildings and everything else, was allowed to go by the board; and therefore why blame the inoffensive fisherman?

AN invitation from Miss Eardley-Wilmot to a cabaret entertainment held to celebrate the silver anniversary of My Little Grey Home in the West brings back, through the shadows cast by two wars, a reminder of those peaceful Edwardian days when the lilt of this simple little ballad was first heard in the land, and immediately "caught on" all over the British world. It is one of those songs of the past which live in the memory, and in common with many other people I connect old and haunting melodies with certain periods of my life, using them as index files to fix dates and link them together more or less accurately. I was under the impression I had heard My Little Grey Home in the West sung first by a professional vocalist in Weymouth Gardens somewhere about 1908 or 1910, but if this is the silver anniversary of the song, and a silver anniversary is 25 years, I must be well out in my dates.

Dolly Gray, The Miner's Dream of Home, and other sentimental ditties of the 1890's I connect always with the South African war and starlit nights on the veld round the camp fire—a reminder of the fact of how much warfare has deteriorated of recent years. Before the days of aeroplanes we could at least be

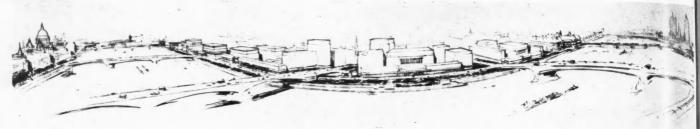
cheerful and warm at nights round a big blaze of scrub wood, and it was a matter of supreme indifference to us if the glow from the fire did signal our position to the enemy—after all, he was doing the same thing himself.

WHEN the last shot of this war has been fired, and petrol is once more obtainable, I recommend those who love unspoilt country-side—and by countryside I mean peaceful agricultural England and not recognised beauty spots on mountains, moors and fells—to do the cross-country run from Ringwood to Shaftesbury, and see before it is too late a stretch of 20 miles, no less, on which there is not one jarring note after one has shaken off the purlieus of the towns. It is a sight which must fill the bungalow-builder with horror and despondency, and no doubt this wanton neglect will be dealt with at the earliest possible moment, so intending travellers should not delay once petrol is available.

This second-class cross-country road takes one over Horton Common with its Scots fir clumps and heath, to the little Allen chalk stream in a wide green valley, through a corner of Cranborne Chase by Tollard Royal, and finally hairpins over steep downs, terraced by the ancient Britons and Romans, to the old town of Shaftesbury. On the way it crosses Roman highways, now mere tracks through wide corn-fields and pastures, and everywhere are signs of earthworks surrounded by tumuli sinking into the ploughed land. The farm-steads one passes on the way are of that type where the farm-house, its barns, outbuildings and labourers' cottages are grouped together in a fold in the hills forming a small hamlet, and the thatched roof still holds its own.

I do not know if this 20 miles of road is unique, but personally I have not met anywhere another stretch of this length in England which has escaped desecration during those all-too-active building years between 1918-39. Whenever, prior to this war. I felt depressed by the red-brick, synthetic-tiled horrors of some of our erstwhile rural areas, I used to run across to Shaftesbury and look at unspoilt England.

THE COUNTY OF LONDON PLAN



Drawn by the late William Walcon

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PERSPECTIVE OF THE SOUTH BANK OF THE RIVER FROM A VIEWPOINT OVER SHELL-MEX HOUSE Showing new Temple, Waterloo and Charing Cross bridges

HE County of London Plan was begun in response to a request to the L.C.C. by Lord Reith when Minister of Works. He desired it for the assistance of the Ministry in considering methods and machinery for the planning and carrying out of the reconstruction of town and country. The Architect's Department of the Council have conceived their instructions in the widest terms, assuming that new legislation and financial assistance will be forthcoming. The L.C.C. is, of course, the statutory planning authority for London outside the City, and not the least important aspect of the County of London Plan is its visual demonstration of the effects that are capable of being produced by the powers recommended for the Government by the Barlow, Uthwatt, and Scott Committees if sanctioned by Parliament. And when Lord Latham, as Leader of the Council, is found endorsing a scheme of such magnitude as this with an appeal to Londoners for faith and firmness of purpose, it is clear that the L.C.C. has pledged itself to its realisation. By so doing, an epoch in the history of London, indeed of

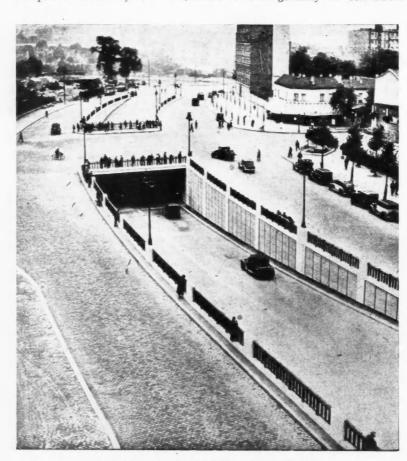
Britain, is marked: the end is foreshadowed of the piecemeal and permissive regulations which have hitherto passed for official planning and have failed to regulate promiscuous development; and a new, an English, conception of an Imperial Metropolitan capital has been bodied forth.

COMMUNITIES

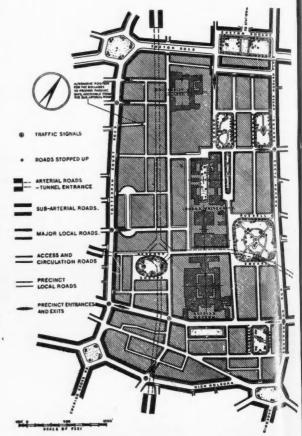
Characteristically, the new London visualised is a compromise between advanced planning theory as represented in the diagrams and Continental precedents that have recently been exhibited, and the national, natural, tendency to enjoy garden suburb life. London has come to consist of a collection of units or communities, originally separate villages and still in some cases retaining individuality and local loyalty, but for the most part overgrown and decayed. It should, says the Report, "be one of the first objectives of the planner to disengage these communities, to mark more clearly their identities, to preserve them from disturbing intrusions such as streams of through traffic, and generally to reconstruct them where

necessary." The general approach to the whole problem is summed up in the Report's comment: "To ignore or scrap these communities in favour of a new and theoretical subdivision of areas would be both too academic and too drastic."

This over-all conception is the key-note of the plan, the clue to its far-reaching transport, industrial, and zoning proposals, and the touchstone by which the recommendations of other bodies such as the Royal Academy and the R.I.B.A. have been tested. The ancient boroughs are retained as planning units made up of component neighbourhoods which, in special instances such as the heart of Westminster and the University quarter of Bloomsbury, are further defined as "precincts." These naturally coherent areas, large or small, are not to be split up, but to be separated one from the other by rail and traffic barriers. This conditions the siting of industrial areas and the alignment of roads and railways, the principle being to group the at present scattered industries in each area into the most appropriate portion of it, and to create



A TRAFFIC "FLY-OVER," NEW YORK
Similar crossings are recommended for the proposed Ring Roads
and elsewhere



THE UNIVERSITY PRECINCT, BLOOMSBUR A gigantic "fly-over" with tunnels for North-South and East-West through traffic

internal by-passes, some "green ways," for fast or through traffic.

DENSITY

But before instancing how the Report suggests that these communities and the new traffic system are to be handled, the fundamental question of density of population is raised. At present there is in London no more than an average of two no more than an average of two acres of public open space per 1,000 of population; the Plan proposes 4 acres per 1,000, and 7 acres in the outer areas (for comparison, Westminster enjoys 6 acres per 1,000 population). An important departure from precedent is made by adopting a basis of "population per unit area of land" ting densities instead of ting densities instead of for cal arts and houses to be con-the same ratio. The Report a density of 136 persons the dy enabling sidered arrives i.e. between 100 and 200) timum, in contrast, for to 186 in Bethnal Green, per ac as the examp oney, 436 in St Giles Ward, 180 in 5 the highest-in 1938. A Holbon specimen diagrams show numbe density of population can with the desired amount how ti be hou pace, and indicate a ratio of open of 33 1 cent. accommodated in 7 per cent. in flats. Applyhouses to ing this density to the central areas, an average of 39 per cent. of their present population would be displaced. On the other hand, the West present End is visualised as becoming more densely populated in inexpensive flats by professional workers at present living in suburbs. The dis-placed population from congested areas would, it is suggested, move partly to the suburbs and partly to

distribution of industry. Admirable specimen plans are given for the reconstruction of typical given for the reconstruction of typical East-End boroughs, and the pro-cedure applicable to all cases is ex-plained. When all data has been assembled, a "key plan" such as that illustrated for Stepney is drawn up-frequently drastic, but to be

new satellite towns produced by the

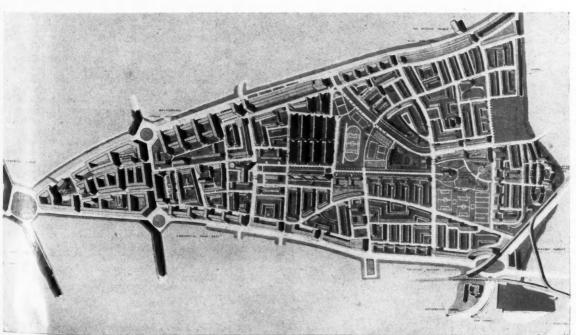
(Right) HYDE PARK CORNER With a building of national importance on the site of St. George's Hospital; Apsley House and the Screen retained (at bottom)



THE WESTMINSTER PRECINCT. Victoria Street bifurcates (right) to deliver traffic to Lambeth Bridge and to a new roundabout at the head of Westminster Bridge



The drawings above are by the late Walcot William



AN AREA IN STEPNEY RE-DEVELOPED AT A DENSITY OF 136 PERSONS TO THE ACRE WITH 4 ACRES OF OPEN SPACE PER 1,000 PERSONS

Showing the open character of redevelopment. There is a mixture of multistorey flats and terrace houses

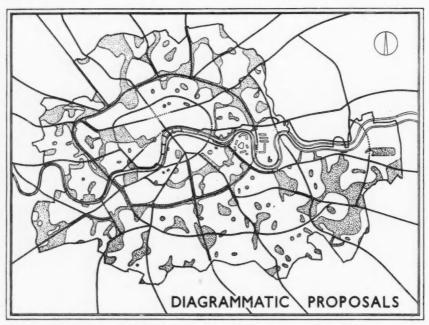
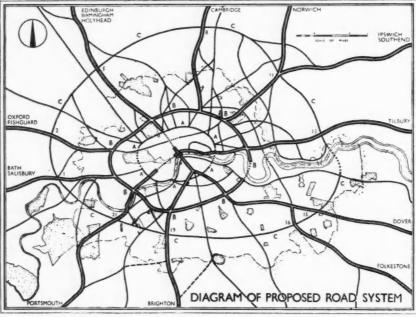


DIAGRAM OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED OPEN SPACES



ROAD PLAN DIAGRAM SHOWING THE SYSTEM OF RING-ROADS

attained only in the long view. In this plan, certain parts are indicated to be dealt with immediately, either bomb-cleared sites or property already in Council ownership, on which flats would be erected, thus enabling other areas to be cleared. Further plans show second and third stages for gradual realisation.

ROAD TUNNELS

The late Frank Pick estimated that the L.G.O.C. lost £1,000,000 a year through traffic congestion. This, multiplied by every firm and individual, gives a scale for the value of mobility. The Plan's solution for the traffic problem is the completion of the North and South Circular Roads ("C" ring); a fast-traffic ("B") ring-road round the central and subcentral areas—an extension of the Bressey South Circular Road; and an inner ring-road ("A"). There would also be 9 arterial radial roads, and main north-south and east-west cross roads. The former of these, going northwards from Waterloo Bridge to a new traffic circus north of Covent Garden, would thence dive under Bloomsbury by a tunnel to Hampstead Road. The east-west road goes westward from the Victoria Embankment and is tunnelled from near Charing Cross to Ebury Street whence its route links up with Cromwell Road and the west. Eastward a City Embankment or parallel route

is being investigated by the City Corporation. Other tunnels advocated are under Hyde Park (on the "A" Ring), and under Bloomsbury to Clerkenwell by an additional east-west route by-passing Oxford Street along Wigmore Street. Another tunnel is envisaged from Piccadilly Circus to Leicester Square. These tunnels, the Report remarks, "would provide a means of access to a series of spacious underground car parks and particularly in the Covent Garden district," the partial if not complete "demarketing" of which is advocated. The whole Seven Dials area is regarded as "ripe for rebuilding; the new roads would encourage this and an opportunity would occur for a comprehensive scheme of civic design on the scale of Regent Street and Kingsway" (but not, we may hope, on their pattern).

The construction of elevated roads, for the rings or radials, is discouraged, but "fly-over" junctions are recommended at some nodal points. Generally, round-abouts are considered the most practical form of traffic junction, with or without an under- or over-pass in addition. Hesitation, however, is shown in accepting the size and length of weaving space advocated in some quarters for heavy traffic streams, owing to their cost in central areas. New river bridges are indicated at Chiswick, Battersea, replacing the present one, Charing Cross in place of the

rail bridge, and at the Temple. In connection with road widenings, the possibility of moving buildings is favourably considered, on precedents quoted from Moscow and America, where, it seems, occupation of the building is not interrupted, flexible connections for services and even sanitation being provided. Thirty-five per cent. of the cost of demolition and re-erection is said to be saved by the process, and five-storey buildings, 500 ft. long and 66 ft. deep, weighing 23,000 tons, have been moved.

For railways a specially appointed investigating body is recommended, and the subject of aerodromes is left for future decision in view of the transitional stage of aeronautics. This reserve is perhaps a veakness of the Report, especially in view of the remarkable Isle of Dogs air port proposed in the R.I.B.A. plan.

THE RIVER

The greatest anomaly produced by lack of planing in the past is the relegation of London's most splandid feature, the River, to industrial and commercial purposes. It is found that, of the 15 boroughs having a river frontage, six have no riverside amenity states at all, nine have no residential building, and nine no public building, fronting it. It is proposed to remedy this by concentrating wharves and works into higher buildings, thus gaining frontages for amenity.

The most spectacular proposal of the whole Plan is the redevelopment of the South Bank from County Hall to Southwark. For this region, the neglected geographical centre of London, a complete design is put forward, providing a continuous lawn and e planade ultimately as far as London Bridge. Inland to the depth of Stamford Street

might well include a great cultural centre embracing among other features a modern theatre, a large concert hall and the headquarters of varicus organizations. It might accommodate too a number of blocks of offices with, at the eastern extremity, tall blocks of flats and other buildings. The much-needed opening up of Southwark Cathedral would form an integral part of the scheme.

Its alternative reservation as an area for international exhibitions has apparently not been considered,

ARCHITECTURAL TREATMENT

"Many of the benefits," the Report emphasises, "from carrying out the plan would be nullified if insufficient attention was given to the architectural treatment of buildings." It is supposed that the modern movement through which design was passing during the inter-war period will probably be continued with increased tempo and there will be need for strict control of street architecture, especially at focal points. This is visualised as graduated from control of cornice and ground-floor heights in normal streets to conformation to an unified design in important thoroughfares. Control would of course be extended to industrial buildings. The medium suggested is control by panels of architects and planners collaborating with the Council's architect, which would prepare outline or silhouette groups indicating scale, set-backs, and other characteristics of the street picture. The Stockholm practice is instanced where a large-scale model exists into which a model of each proposed, and erected, new building is fitted, so that the effect can be studied.

strong case is made for the display and preservation of historical buildings in all

planning schemes.

In conclusion it is stressed that only the prospect of greatly enlarged powers has led the Council to contemplate such bold and comprehensive planning, far beyond the limitations set by existing measures. As to cost, no figure is or can be given, since much of what is envisaged would be carried out gradually while many immediate works should be regarded as measures for temporary post-war employment. But the destruction which London has suffered makes a number of the schemes comparatively easy of realisation, and the proposals made for the first strenge of reconstruction so far as possible exclude undamaged building or areas.

One may or may not agree with all the recommendations; but as a whole the Report is a masterly achievement, co-ordinating health a complex mass of problems and their solutions, and having the great merit of distinguthing immediate and long-term projects. But, to work at all, it is absolutely essential the the sanctioned before the end of the Government be sanctioned before the end of the war, so that the key plans can be settled within the film work of which alone large-scale employment of first-stage undertakings can be put in hand, when required, with the certainty that they was lift into, and not obstruct, the grand design.



DOGS AT CHURCH

By E. R. YARHAM

THE PEDLAR AND HIS DOG CARVED ON BENCH ENDS IN THE CHURCH AT SWAFFHAM IN NORFOLK

FEW Sundays ago my wife and I walked to evensong in the village church, and had settled ourselves in our pew when there came a scraping and whining at the door.

Investigation proved, as was not unexpected from the tone of the whine, that the intruder was my spaniel. She had got out from the house and followed us to church. It was a new experience for her, but she behaved herself tolerably well, although she persisted in following me to the lectern for the reading of both lessons. Her only other misdemeanour, if it can be termed such, was to go and pay her respects to the rector's wife who was sitting some little way behind and whom she knows well

On the whole I think her behaviour was very creditable in strange surroundings, for that part, East Norfolk, is not a dog country. There are few sheep, and dogs are not accustomed to go to church as in shepherd areas. At one time, however, almost everybody took a dog to services in church. The parish clerk of Barton Turf, in the Norfolk Broads district, has the rent of three acres which are called "Dog Whipper's Land." Ostensibly it is payment for keeping the dogs submissive in church, although nowadays the post is a sinecure. So, too, at Chislet, Kent, there is a piece of ground known as "Dog Whipper's Marsh" designed to yield 10s. a year to be paid to those "keeping order."

When I was living in Wiltshire a few years back, I often crossed into Gloucestershire, as I was particularly fond of the Cotswold country. Stanton Church, in that country, stands at the foot of the hills, and the heads of the last three bench-ends at the north-west of the middle aisle are deeply notched. Without doubt these marks were originally made by dog-chains, and the pews appear to have been allotted to the farmers and shepherds who brought their dogs with them. In Norfolk we have a pedlar and dog perpetually in church. In the splendid parsh church of the little market-town of Swiffham, a carved pedlar and carved dog, of the well-known legend The Swaffham Pedlar, to be seen on the bench-ends.

A short time back I happened to be brows-rough that most interesting book of Dean ay's Reminiscences of Scottish Life and wider, when I came across a reference to the form of taking dogs to church. The Dean id that the dogs were well under control, I behaved very well, until towards the end the last psalm, which they knew heralded the dof the service. Then there was a universal etching and yawning, because there were most as many dogs as people, and the former

got ready to scamper out, some even barking when the blessing was commenced.

The Dean continued: "The congregation of these churches (in Sutherland) determined that the service should close in a more decorous manner, and steps were taken to attain this object. Accordingly, when a strange clergyman was officiating, he found all the people sitting when he was about to pronounce the blessing. He hesitated, and paused, expecting them to rise, till an old shepherd, looking up to the pulpit, said 'Say awa' Sir, we're a' sittin' to cheat the dowgs.'"

cheat the dowgs."

Sometimes the dogs' behaviour was not so decorous as that. The following is found in a quaint miscellany, The Scotsman's Library, edited by James Mitchell, of the University of Aberdeen, and published last century: "I was astonished, says Mr. Hall, to see how the ministers in the interior of the Highlands are plagued with dogs in their churches. As almost every family has a dog, and some two or three, dogs generally go to church; so many dogs being collected, often fight, and make such a noise during worship as not only disturbs the congregation, but endangers the limbs of many. I have seen more than 20 men playing with good cudgels, yet unable to separate a number of dogs fighting in a church. Nay, so much trouble do dogs give in some churches, that there is one person appointed to go through the churchyard, with a kind of long-handled forceps, which he holds out before him, and with which he wounds the tails, legs, ears, etc., of the dogs and thereby keeps the church and churchyard clear of these useful, but unnecessary animals in a place of worship."

The dog whipper was evidently an official of importance in mediæval times if the number of entries in church records is anything to go by, usually something like this: "For whipping doggs out of church paid 2s." A number of old dog whips and tongs survive. In the West-Riding of Yorkshire the verger was always

known as the "Dog-knopper."

At the famous Lancashire church of Whalley can be seen the Constable's seat, erected in 1714. There the constable sat, close by the door, to drive out dogs and other straying undesirables during service. Apparently at one time dogs were a real nuisance to the worshippers, who insisted that steps should be taken to keep them out of church, for from the presentment of Richard Bucke in 1621 it appears that they were to be kept out of the church of Selsey, Sussex, "according to the custom of the parish anciently observed."

The late Canon H. B. Tristam used to relate a delightful incident which occurred in the Border country, in North Northumberland. He was preaching in a village church, and the congregation consisted mostly of Cheviot shepherds, and nearly all had brought their dogs. These lay down the aisle outside their respective masters' pews and remained quiet. On this occasion, as there was a special preacher, a number of Presbyterian shepherds had come. As soon as the prayer after the sermon had concluded the dogs belonging to these latter rose to walk out; the others waited until the



preacher stood up and had given the blessing, each dog following the usage of his own church. When customs were less formal than they

When customs were less formal than they are in these days, clergymen often took their dogs to church with them. At matins, at Kenwith Church, Cornwall, the beloved Bishop Benson was always accompanied by his collie, which occupied a seat in the transept. His name was Watch, and once when the Bishop was reading the lesson, he repeated in a very loud voice, "I say unto you watch." At this the dog, much to the amusement of the parishioners, left his place and went up to his master.

It is pretty obvious from old books of small talk and reminiscences that at one time there was much less decorum in rural churches than nowadays. The Welsh shepherds often take their dogs to church with them, and there is a story of what happened one day in *The Life and Opinions of Robert Roberts*. He recalls a story told him by his father about Gwytherin Church. Old David Jones of Hendre brought a strange dog with him. It was not used to going to church and would not lie down, but persisted in rambling up and down the aisle.

As ill-luck would have it he went and had a look at the altar, a ragged, musty-smelling looking place, it must be confessed. Probably the dog thought it a home for rats, but he did not know that the parson's dog Pedro had, almost time out of mind, made his couch in front of the altar. Finding his sacred corner invaded Pedro set up his bristles and growled. He got up, and the two marched down the aisle and up again, eyeing each other fiercely and showing their teeth, while some of the lads did their best to encourage them under their breath.

To conclude the story: "While passing the reading desk the second time, their wrath could be restricted no longer; but at it they went, right before the parson's face. He stopped the psalms he was reading, looked at them for a second or two with great approval, and at last called out 'I'll bet a pound on Pedro—who'll take?""

A similar story is related of a Highland kirk, where discipline seems to have become disgracefully lax among both the human and canine congregations. The new minister found that not only were dogs brought to service, but even set to fight and backed during the sermon time. After watching the scene in pained surprise he shut his book with a bang and addressed the delinquents: "If next Sabbath ye would raither watch the wrestlings of wrathful beasts than hear the exposition of the True Word, I—I——" (here his sporting instincts prevailed) "I wouldna' mind risking a saxpence on yon black dog."

COLLECTORS' QUESTIONS

THESE pages introduce a feature new to Country Life and, we hope, likely to be of interest to its readers. Far from suppressing interest in "collectors' pieces" the war seems, to judge by correspondence received at these offices, actually to have increased it. We therefore invited readers to submit their problems as to articles of interest to the connoisseur, to the judgment of the Country Life panel of experts, and we propose to publish a

selection of the most generally interesting questions and answers at short intervals. It must be emphasised that no valuations can be made, and we specially ask that photographs, rubbings or full descriptions only shall be sent, and in no circumstances objects of any kind. Questions should be addressed to the Editor, Country Life, 2-10, Tavistock Street, W.C.2. A stamped, addressed envelope should be enclosed, if a reply by post is desired.



GNOMES DISSECTING PUMPKINS AFTER A SHIPWRECK
See Question: An Early Work by Magnasco?

AN EARLY WORK BY MAGNASCO?

MAN any of your experts tell me what is , really happening in this curious picture, and whom it can be by? A ship has evidently been wrecked on the coast of Lilliput, and its cargo of pumpkins is being washed ashore. The local inhabitants have adopted a number of ingenious devices for dissecting the monstrous fruit, one of which has been strung up to the branch of a tree by a man with a knife in his mouth assisted by another dressed as a ghost or penitent. On the right two men mounted on locusts, the outermost in full armour, have succeeded in raising a huge knife and have already cut one slice which others are manhandling outwards. At the top is a man in a cage, giving or receiving a message carried by another locust. On it is written MARMEO twice. In the foreground is a stout lady dressed rather like the Duchess in "Alice in Wonderland," munching a slice of pumpkin and holding a scroll inscribed SCVAQVERA. In the lower left corner is a partly dissected pumpkin off which one man has fallen into some water, where he is being gobbled up by a huge duck. Above this group a bearded man is sweeping cobwebs off the bough of the tree. The colouring throughout is rich and sombre, toning down from the brilliant orange of the dissected pumpkin on the left; the brushwork vigorous and sparkling. The composition is strangely satisfying in its simple geometrical arrangement even at a distance from which its teeming detail cannot be made out .-C. H., Froyle, Alton.

Judging from the costume of the figure with his back turned just below the central pumpkin, who wears a sword-belt, breeches,

and lace frills at the knee, the date of this caricatura appears to be mid-seventeenth century. The baroque movement of the whole seems to indicate Italian provenance. The handling and conception of some of the figures recalls Magnasco, whose grotesque compositions of monks among ruins or rocks have a similar oddity, and who sometimes painted polichinelles

like the old man in the centre of the foreground. But one misses the elongation of the figures in Magnasco's mature work. North Italian School is perhaps as near an ascription as can be hazarded. The subject is fascinating but obscure. Possibly an authority on the minor literature of 17th-century Italy might be able to identify it as emanating from some fairy tale or romance of the period.



Is anything known about the cabinet-makers John McLean and Son, of 58, Upper Marylebone Street, whose label is pasted on a drawer in this rosewood writing-table? The superstructure is of brass, and the applied enrichments to the drawers are unusual.—F. K., Streatham Lodge, Richmond.

The name of "McLean & Son, Upper Terrace, Tottenham Court Road & 34 Marybone Street Picadilly" appears in the list of master cabinet-makers in Sheraton's Cabinet Dictionary. In the same work, a design of a work-table (page 292) is said by Sheraton to be "taken from one executed by Mr. McLean in Mary le bone Street . . who finishes these small articles in the neatest manner."

BUST BY NOLLEKENS

I have a bust of William Pitt in my possession, signed by Nollekens. Can you tell me

ROSEWOOD WRITING-TABLE BY JOHN McLEAN, circa 18()

(Inset) McLEAN'S LA BEL

Ses Question: A Regency Conincl-





GAY'S LIBRARY CHAIR See Question: "Cock-fighting" Chairs

his sculptor made many busts of Pitt, whet. one I own is likely to be valuable?and i Bridgnorth, Shropshire. OWN.

Jumph Nollekens, R.A. (1737-1822) "executed" a very large number of busts of Pitt, at least 150; that is to say, that he executed the original model and himself carved one or two examples, while his underpaid assistants turned out the rest. The biography of the sculptor, by J. T. Smith, whose father was one of Nollekens's assistants, is one of the most curious and interesting of its type in existence.

A SWORD TO IDENTIFY

I shall be very grateful if any of your experts can identify the period and country of origin of this sword. It is a small one and is only $30\frac{1}{4}$ ins. from the top of the hilt to the point. The blade is a beautiful piece of work, triangular in section, grooved and very delicately wrought. The hilt is of iron with inlaid gold detail on very dark blue enamel ground, the grip of alternat-ing gold and silver wire. The scabbard is miss-ing.—Gerald Brown (Flt. Lieut.), Abingdon.

The date of the small-sword, of which a photograph is submitted, is approximately 1740-50, or perhaps a few years later. The blade of triangular section, of modified Colichemarde type lacking the shoulders, is of a fashion common to English, French and some Low Country weapons of the period; German swords are almost exclusively provided with bi-convex blades of rapier type. The hilt is international in its constructional features, but details of its outline may be regarded as essentially English —the large pommel, attenuated pas-d ane and barrel-shaped grip. We do not know of an exact parallel to the enrichment of the hilt, but the use of a blue enamel background to the ornamentation is frequent on other English adjuncts to costume of the period. A mourning small-sword of about 1760-70 decorated with silver formal scrolls on a background of black enamel is known to have belonged to an old Cheshire family.

"COCK-FIGHTING" CHAIRS

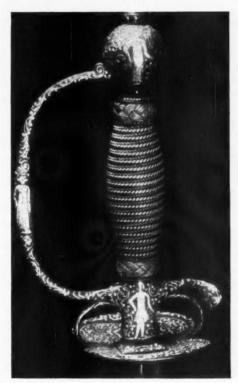
Could you, or one of your readers, please help me? I have recently come by an early 18th-century "cock-fighting" chair, a curious mixture of clumsiness and grace. It is nearly complete, with hinged backboard (or frontboard. according as you sit) on a slotted ratchet, with bevelled discs—for candlesticks or glasses?—on either side. But there is something missing. inches below the back of the seat-rail, and in the immensely sturdy back legs, is a ser, only \(^2\) in. wide but \(^1\)_i ins. deep, and rear centre of its top is a slot, roughly Vstaned. Was there originally a small drawer become seat-rail and stretcher? There are no traces of runners to be seen, but perhaps the awer could have been so weighted, or otherwise a apted, in the front—and here the slot may

closed. If so, do you know if such drawers existed? If not a drawer, perhaps you could tell me what the purpose of the slot was.—Gerald Millar, Saffron Walden, Essex.

There can be no doubt that Mr. Millar is right in his conjecture that a drawer was originally fitted under the seat of his "cock-fighting" chair; the association of these chairs with cockfighting is, by the way, entirely legendary, and there is the clearest evidence that they were intended for use in libraries. The majority of examples are found without a drawer below the seat, but "Gay's chair," which was on exhibi-tion at the Barnstaple Museum before the war, is fitted with such a drawer, and it is stated that early in the nineteenth century a number of unpublished poems by Gay, including an address To My Chair, were found when the drawer was opened. This chair was illustrated and described by Mr. Ralph Edwards in Country Life, April 3, 1926. A catch fitting into the V-shaped slot which Mr. Millar describes no doubt served to secure the drawer. It may interest him to see these photographs of Gay's chair and another rather more like his

COMMEMORATIVE JUGS

When your photographer was here he photographed three jugs in my possession, which did not figure in your article, but on



HILT OF AN ENGLISH SWORD, MID 18th-CENTURY See Question: A Sword to Identify



18th-CENTURY "COCK-FIGHTING" CHAIR See Question: "Cock-fighting" Chair:

which I should be interested to have some information. They consist of a pair 91 ins. high, with the spout formed as a man's face wearing a cocked hat; one side has flowers painted on it, the other the arms of Puleston of Emeral, near Wrexham, in a floral frame.

The other jug, $7\frac{1}{2}$ ins. high, has a portrait of a short stout old man, and, beneath the spout,

these verses:

The figure there is no mistaking - breaking It is the famous man for -Oh! that instead of Horse and Mare He had but broken Crockery Ware. Each grateful Potter in a Bumper Might drink the Health, of Orange Jumper. -P. T. DAVIES-COOKE, Gwysaney, Mold.

The two outer jugs are very prettily decorated examples of the "Rodney" jug, made to commemorate the victory over De Grasse in the West Indies on April 12, 1782, with spout in the form of a head of the Admiral, from the Derby factory, and were probably produced not long after the date of the event. The flower painting looks like the work of one Edward Withers. The shield is a

The other jug is one of those made to commemorate a man called "Orange Jumper," a horse-breaker who was employed to carry despatches between York and Wentworth House in the Yorkshire election of 1807, in which Lord Milton was the successful candidate. The figure and verses are transfer-printed and painted over. These jugs were made at the Don Pottery, Swinton, and this one probably has the mark (the name of the pottery) under the base. There are other specimens in the Fitzwilliam Museum and at York, in the Yorkshire Museum. There was an article on these jugs by W. A. Atkinson in *The Ladies Field*, for January 9, 1915.



"RODNEY" AND "ORANGE JUMPER" JUGS See Question: Commemorativ Jugs

HAMPSTEAD VILLAGE—II

By MURIEL BARRON

Among the ghosts evoked by Hampstead's many Regency houses are those of Keats, the Abbe Morel and the Duchesse d'Angouleme,

Leigh Hunt, Walter Scott, Romney and Constable

T is remarkable how long there persists in the hearts of so many sojourners in Hampstead a love of those steep streets and the varied landscape of the heath, with its ever-changing skies. Leigh Hunt, when he settled in the Vale of Health in 1815, realised his ambition, for "not even John Clare loved Helpstone's molehilly heath more than Hunt loved the place." Memories of the hours he spent with Hunt's children sailing paper boats on the Hampstead ponds may have been in Shelley's mind when he wrote to Peacock from Leghorn: "I most devoutly wish I were living near London . . inclinations point to it but I do not know whether I should not make up my mind to something more suburban. What are mountains, trees, heaths, or the glorious and everbeautiful sky, with such sunsets as I have seen at Hampstead, to friends?" To Wordsworth, familiar with the grander scenery of the Lake District, it was a human interest which, he says, "stirred my mind agreeably, when I was at Hampstead, the accidental sight of the words Goulders Green painted on a board, as you see the names of the streets



WENTWORTH PLACE
The house where Keats spent his last months in England

ST. MARY'S, HOLLY PLACE Roman Catholic Church built by the French emigre Abbe Morel

in London, recalling an ode of Akenside written at that place"

Again and again, after journeys far afield, Constable returned to Hampstead; first living in Well Walk, then in lodgings in Lower Terrace, in Downshire Hill, whence he writes to Leslie: "we are at Hampstead, at No. 1 Downshire Hill, a spot in the valley to the right as you enter the town. Our house is on the left of the New Chapel." But he returned again to Well Walk, it is easy to believe for the beauty of the view which he describes in a letter to his friend Dean Fisher. "Our little drawing room commands a view unsurpassed in Europe, from Westminster Abbey to Gravesend. The dome of St. Paul's in the air seems to realize Michael Angelo's words on seeing the Pantheon 'I will build such a thing in the sky." Though after his wife's death the painter returned to his house in Charlotte Street, his remains were laid by her side in the churchyard at Hampstead where, nearly 10 years earlier, he had declared: "I would gladly exclaim, here let me take my everlasting rest."

The vogue of Hampstead as a "spa" was in definite and permanent decline at the end of the eighteenth century.

The "Long Room" and Assembly Room in Well Walk were, in 1800, converted into private houses by their owner Thomas Wetherall the elder. The red brick exterior of Wetherall House still encases the remains of this resort of pleasure though sadly damaged by time and enemy action.

But as a healthy and convenient residential suburb Hampstead saw no falling-off in the demand for more and more of those neat villa residences, terraces and family houses which arose on what had been farms and market gardens. From the days of the Prince Regent well into the nineteenth century the influence of Nash is plainly visible in the architecture of the tree-shaded roads leading to and from the Heath. In the High Street, as in so many shopping centres, the old houses have been mostly refaced, or pulled down, but many still exist behind sew though sometimes repellent exteriors.

Built of the then fashionable Norfolk brick, either the first or second house from the Wells Hotel (at that time the Green Man) was the lodging of John Kents and his brother Tom, already in an advanced stage of consumption. There, in the house of Bently the postman, Tom died and John took up his residence with his friend at Wentworth Place. This was one of a pair of send detached houses newly built by John Wentworth Dilke at the bottom of John Street—the present Keats Groe. This street, and its near neighbour Downshire Hill, were



A COUNER OF REGENCY HAMPSTEAD.
ST. J. HN'S CHURCH,
DOW SHIRE HILL;
ONE OF THE FEW
REM NING PRO-

then in process of being laid out on the site of a field, some say a brick-field, on the borders of the East Heath: running down from Haverstock Hill towards the proprietary chapel called St. John's, Downshire Hill—which was built in 1818. These houses, of varying sizes—some with charming Trafalgar balconies and flights of stone steps, some more modest semi-detached and only two storeys high, with brick façades and stone dressings—must have been built to suit the taste and needs of many various occupiers.

Dilke was among the earlier owners to be settled in one of his own pair of villas; we have it on Keats's own authority that there was no great speed in the laying-out of John Street. He writes to his sister one Sunday morning in February, 1820, from Wentworth Place: "The half-built houses opposite us stand just as they were and seem dying of old age before they are brought up."

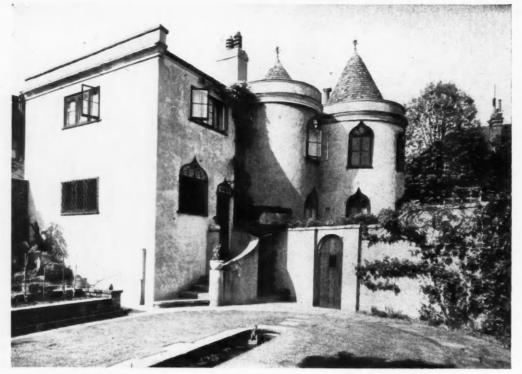
"Portland Place," a pair of small houses beyond the church in Downshire Hill, bears the date 1823 on a painted plaster plaque. It may well be that these names, as well as "Downshire Place," where Sara Coleridge lived a little later on, were used before the houses were numbered or the roads completely built up. "Upper Heath" and "Lower Heath" were sufficient indication to the Post Office, and letters at this period frequently bore no other address.

Though the subsequent owner altered Dilke's two houses by the addition of a large room on the east side, they bear so strong a family likeness to other pairs of houses in





No. 6, DOWNSHIRE HILL. Regency feeling at its best is shown in the delightful balcony with its tent-shaped roof (Right) THE PORCH AND BELFRY OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, DOWNSHIRE HILL, BUILT IN 1818



HUNTERS LODGE, BELSIZE LANE An example of Strawberry Hill Gothic

the neighbourhood that one may easily visualise their original appearance during those agonising months when the poet, knowing himself to be a dying man, stayed there "domesticated" as he puts it with Charles Armitage Brown, with Mrs. Brawne and her family occupying the adjoining house. After his serious attack on the preceding day Keats writes on February 19, 1820, to Fanny Brawne: "They say I must remain confined to this room for some time. The consciousness that you love me will make a pleasant prison of the house next to yours." Here too he wrote those brotherly letters to his young sister Fanny. In one of them he gives a picture of the scene from his sick room:

A Sopha bed is made up for me in the front Parlour which looks on the grass plot as you remember Mrs. Dilke's does. How much more comfortable than a dull room upstairs where one gets tired of the pattern of the bed curtains. Besides, I see all that passes—for instance now, this morning—if I had been in my own room I should not have seen the coals brought in. On Sunday between the hours of twelve and one I descried a Pot boy. I conjectured it might be the one o'clock beer—Old women with bobbins and red cloaks and unpresuming bonnets I see creeping about the heath. Gipseys after hare skins and silver spoons. Then goes by a fellow

with a wooden clock under his arm that strikes a hundred and more. Then comes the old French emigrant who has been very well to do in France with his hands joined behind his hips, and his face full of political schemes. As for these fellows the Brickmakers they are always passing to and fro. I mustn't forget the two maiden Ladies in Well Walk who have a lap dog between them that they are very anxious about. It is a corpulent Little beast, whom it is necessary to coax along with an ivory tipp't cane. Carlo our neighbour Mrs. Brawne's dog and it meet sometimes. Lappy hinks Carlo a devil of a fellow and so do his Mistresses. Well they may—he would sweep them all down at a rue; All for the Joke of it.

The mention of the "old French emigrant, who has been very well to do," recalls the name of the Abbé Morel, founder of the Roman Catholic Church on Holly Bush Hill built by him in 1816 for the use of about 200 French refugees from the Revolution who had established themelves in Hampstead.

Here, in the parsonage house adjoining the chapel, the Abbé ministered to his flock for 56 years. His bones lie under the

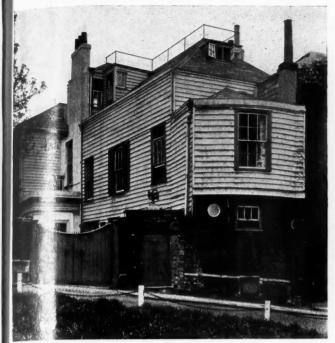


COTTAGES IN PROSPECT PLACE OVERLOOKING THE CHURCHYARD



floor of the chapel he was instrumental in raising, in which more than one marriage of famous people has taken place, among them that of lovely Mary Anderson. There is a story recounted by an old nurse in the Nevinson family—Mrs. Simmonds who married and came to live in Hampstead in 1819: one day she saw a foreign-looking carriage standing at the bottom of Holly Bush Hill; two ladies, handsomely dressed but not like English ladies, were escorted to it by the Abbé Morel, bareheaded. The elder lady when seated in the carriage took the hand of the Abbé and kinsed it repeatedly, the tears streaming down her face. A gentleman who also witnessed this scene turned to Mrs. Simmonds and said: "Do you know who that is? She is the Duchesse d'Angoulème." A link between the France of the Bourbons and our own day! For old Mrs. Simmonds died as recertly

(Left) THE OLD PUMP ROOM IN WELL WALK. Built 1701, demolished 1880



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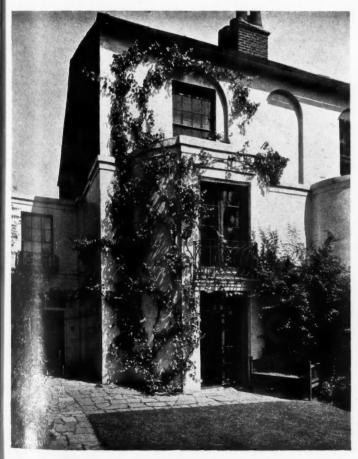
OMNEY'S HOUSE AND STUDIO, HOLLY BUSH HILL. Designed and built by himself and in which he died. Hayley calls it "Romney's singular house." (Right) THE ADJOINING HOUSES

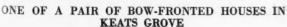
as 1896, still living on Holly Bush Hill, and is remembered to-day by some of Hampstead's oldest residents.

The building activities after the Battle of Waterloo in the north-western London suburbs began to link Kentish Town, Camden Town, Marylebone, Paddington and the fringes of Hampstead and Highgate into one. Stucco villas with pleasant gardens in which still flourished the cherry and pear trees of the market gardens they supplanted, terraces

of neat houses, some with a garnish of Gothic decoration, some in the classic taste of the brothers Adam, arose between the Strand and the Hampstead heights. so that Mr. Bunbury's words, spoken to Garrick and Sir Joshua Reynolds on their picnic excursion from Adelphi Terrace to Hampstead half a century before, were fulfilled. "Sterne was seated by the side of Sir Joshua, and Gainsborough mounted the phaeton with Mr. Bunbury that he might, in his own words,

'behold the butter flowers and the daisies, the summer houses and haycocks.' 'They are planning some new streets out yonder,' said Bunbury as we passed the old 'Adam and Eve,' pointing towards Marylebone with his whip. 'Confound them,' said Garrick, 'I wonder where these mad fellows intend to carry the town, tempting strangers here. Why, as old Child said a hundred years ago, the head is growing too big for the body. What would he say if he could see it now.'"







A HOUSE IN DOWNSHIRE HILL The back of the basement was originally the stable

THE FIRST HOLE

A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

HE thought of the first hole is one to conjure up all manner of visions; of agony in the nervous starting for a match or medal round; of ecstasy as we dash out on to the tee on the first day of golfing holiday after long abstinence. I can still recall with a pleasurable tingling of memory the sensation that can only come to any one of us once in a lifetime, namely that of playing the first hole of a new century. On that New Year's morning my opponent and I resolved if possible to hit the first ball at Aberdovey. We sneaked out of the house before the rest of the party, clattered down the hill, walked as fast as dignity permitted along the front and fairly broke into a trot on the railway platform that leads to the links. Had some one anticipated us? We felt as did Whymper and his companions in their conquest of the Matterhorn, wondering in horrid suspense, as they neared the top, whether the Italians had got there before them. No, there was not a soul in sight; the links lay utterly solitary; we had achieved our ambition and, as it chanced to be my honour, the first tee shot of the century was

That is, however, an egotistical if pleasing irrelevance. Let me get down to the subject in earnest. Were I to write an article on the seventeenth hole—and I have doubtless often done so—I should have only one kind of merit to consider, because it is a truth universally accepted that the seventeenth hole should be a beast, a difficult testing, nerve-racking beast such as may ruin the most blameless of scores, one on which the fate of empires may worthily depend. With the first hole, on the other hand, there are two different virtues to be reckoned with. A hole may be a great hole in itself, bristling with difficulty and interest and yet for that very reason by no means in its right place as a first hole. Another hole may present no striking problem nor make the pulse beat very fast, and yet from a utilitarian point of view may approach the ideal.

It is more or less axiomatic that the first hole should enable the players to get away from the tee as quickly as possible, to which end it should be fairly long and fairly plain-sailing. I recall one, now non-existent, which fully answered this description. It was at delightful Porthcawl, in the days when the course started nearer the town than it does to-day. How well I remember playing it with my old friend Edmund Spencer, then one of the shining lights of the young Hoylake school. In front of us stretched a lovely expanse of turf with no kind of visible obstruction, and in the dim distance he pointed out to me a lonely white stone. It was at the back of the green and we had to hit and hit and hit again till we got there. That was perhaps carrying a good principle a little but a hole without many hazards, which calls for three shots in the reaching, does speed the players on their way. Conversely a one-shot hole is the worst kind of first hole. When Muirfield began with a one-shotter calculations showed that definitely fewer couples could get round in an Open Championship during the day than on other courses.

To-day the ball goes so far that it is difficult to predicate a hole which a big hitter will not reach in two; but when driving was a little more moderate I should have said that the first hole at Sunningdale was an ideal opening hole, by no means without interest, but comparatively free from calamitous trouble and demanding from reasonable citizens two full shots and a pitch. The first at Worlington had the same sort of merit and makes still, I think, an admirable start, but where are the three wooden club shots of yester year? I saw Taylor and Jack White take them, full measure, to get up in 1895, and now the lusty undergraduate from Cambridge is home with a drive and an iron—if, which is not invariably the case, he hits them straight. St. Andrews has a first hole of a different type which has much to commend .t. It is hardly possible to get into trouble with

the tee shot, though I remember one Walker Cup match in which the crowd held its breath as a rather erratic driver on our side hit off. The Burn can and does bring many people to grief with their approach, but it does not waste much time and that is a great point.

much time and that is a great point.

It is more amusing to consider those first holes which owe their reputation rather to the fact that they are too good to come first. Undoubtedly one of the great first holes is that at Hoylake, which is greater still, as I know to my cost, as the nineteenth. It needs two fine, straight shots to reach the green; the out-of-bounds field lurks greedily on the right, and since the player must turn at right angles when he has passed the corner of the field, he has two different winds to combat at one and the same hole. Yet that out-of-bounds threat, which largely makes the hole, does permit of a good deal of time being wasted as the wretched player—experto credo—drops ball after ball over his shoulder and sees them vanish over the cop. From a merely practical and pedestrian point of view, therefore, it is not the ideal beginning. I observe, however, that Mr. Simpson and Mr. H. N. Wethered make it the first hole of their ideal or eclectic course, and I bow to them readily.

Another hole that is too good, or at any rate too potentially disastrous, to be the first is that at Prestwick, with the out-of-bounds railway on the right, the cross-bunker in front and various troubles on the left. Admittedly it is not what it was in gutty days. To-day the strong player may take a spoon from the tee and pitch home with almost anything for his second shot. Once upon a time two wooden club shots or a drive and a long iron were wanted and then it was a hole, and what a nineteenth! I came across by chance the other day some figures which show its ancient quality. In 1893

Willie Auchterlonie won the Open Championship at Prestwick and his figures at that first hole for the four rounds were respectively 5, 8, 6 and 6. Two out of the four were bad starts and one was disastrous, but that the winner of the Championship should take an average of one over sixes there says something for the terrors of the hole, as it does for his recuperative powers. It has not by any means lost its dangers even with the enervating rubber-core. In the Army Championship of 1930 Captain E. D. Stevenson caused some excitement by holing the last hole at Prestwick, which is 283 yds. long, in one shot; but he had taken 10 shots to the first.

An opening hole for which I have affection, an unquestionably good hole and vet not too good for its place, is that at St. Ge Sandwich. No great harm can come to shot, for the rushes that once caught a pped ball have been almost exterminated; but good drive is rewarded by getting over the "kit and the second, whether we carry the cross-bunker or sneak along the little valley ast it ast it to the right, is full of interest. That, too, nakes a good nineteenth, for when people are really frightened there is nothing like a cross-bunker to make them take the eye off too soon, I remember a certain nineteenth in the Halford Hewitt Cup at Deal, where the streamet of innocent aspect guards the first green. Heavens! how hard our man did top his little pitch, and, thank heaven, how the ball leaped over the brook and we won the match. Among the best inland courses, apart from the two I named earlier, I cannot think of any very notable first holes. Liphook-yes, that has a good second shot; but for the most part they begin in a comparatively commonplace manner and reserve their chief beauties and problems till a little later in the round, which is quite as it should be. One must not give way to wishful thinking, but the first hole played after peace is declared can never be commonplace for those who are alive to play it. Long or short, simple or difficult, it will at that moment be far the best hole in the world.

WAR-TIME PRODUCTION AT BADMINTON

By MAJOR NELSON ROOKE

HEN war began on September 3, 1939, harvest was barely in. Including that, we are now about to gather our fifth war harvest, and this one, speaking nationally, will probably be the greatest of all time.

To confound the gloomy, "impoverished" grass land at Badminton Park, which has been heavily cropped since it was ploughed in anticipation of the crisis in 1938, promises to yield even more bountifully this year than in any of the previous four years. On this shallow brash soil care has naturally had to be taken to safeguard fertility by adhering, so far as the exigencies of war allow, to the "rules of good husbandry"—(1) a suitable (though modified) rotation of crops, including the cleaning and enriching potato "break"; (2) the use of balanced artificial manures and farm-yard dung and (3) the feeding of cattle and sheep on the land.

BACK TO THE FOUR-COURSE SYSTEM

The time has now come for a more definite return to the old four-course system of cropping —seeds (clovers and grasses); wheat (or oats); roots; barley. In particular, seeds must again take their accustomed place. Though normally they remain down for only one year, in such special cases as seed-production, for intensive milk, or to restore impoverished land, they may with the consent of the War Agriculture Executive Committee remain for longer periods. Their particular functions in the rotation are (1) to rest the land after white straw crops; (2) to fix nitrogen in the soil; (3) to replace humus, and (4) to afford folding for sheep or grazing for cattle with the beneficial results

which follow intensive feeding on the land. The use of leafy pedigree strains of clovers and grasses now gives far better results from the seeds break than were obtained even a generation ago with commercial strains.

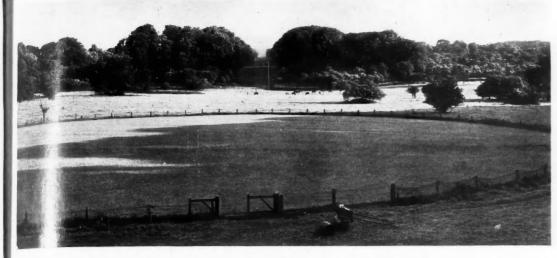
The elasticity which a 1,000-acre grass park provides is certainly an advantage, because more and still more can be ploughed to replace land sown down to seeds after three or four corn crops. But even such expanses have their limits, and resort has to be made in the long run to traditional farming methods and the bed-rock principles of good husbandry.

AREAS RECLAIMED BY CLEARING SCRUB

Further areas have been added by clearing dense scrub with modern machinery and much toil. Steam tackle and bull-dozers were got to work and large tree stumps were blown out of the ground with charges of explosives extracted from dud German bombs. Caterpillar tractor and prairie-buster plough did the rest, and it has been possible this spring to plant an additional 20 acres of potatoes—to produce we hope, many tons of useful human food.

As a contrast to 1,200 acres entirely gass five years ago, the ploughed area this amounts to 650 acres, producing many hund eds of tons of arable crops for national needs, and this concurrently with a considerable increase in the cattle and sheep population. Needess to say deer have been drastically reduced

Harvests now include wheat, barley, the beans, potatoes, flax and linseed. Two combinary are the harvesters, a self-binder, a flax-puller and a fairly strong force of harvest labour. List



BADMINTON PARK

The avenue to the entry front from Worcester Lodge as it was before the war

tchy weather compressed our main vear's operations into about 10 days of ted effort. During that time farm, litary, schoolboy and women workers, harve: conce estate trong, furnished four ricking parties, some ing gang, personnel for two combines, one thi r, two mowers, sundry lorries, and a eight scythers. Even with this force "field he wheat sprouted in the stook. This some o ed wet from the field and sent straight we thre kilns for drying, after which it was fit into the for milling.

PRE-FABRICATED THATCH

An aftermath of work followed harvest. Pre-fabricated thatch had been got ready during slack periods by the use of a machine, and this had to be fixed to the rick roofs. Unless carefully and thickly made, this thatch is not so effective as the old method. Now that straw is plentiful it is a wise precaution to top each stack with a wagon-load. The straw should be laid in courses from the eaves upwards, each succeeding course overlapping the one below. If the roof is then lightly raked downwards, there is little danger of showers penetrating to the corn (or hay) before thatching can be carried out.

Many precious tons of bread-corn are lost each year through bad stacking and faulty or delayed thatching. The June Journal of the Ministry of Agriculture has an article by Mr. Oldershaw on this subject which should be read by every farmer.

Straw left on the ground by the combine-harvester gave us a problem. It was too wet to sweep and soon became sodden and spoilt. Eventually it was burnt where it lay in order to get the land ploughed for the next crop. A pick-up baler would be the answer, but they are practically unobtainable. The loss of the straw from a financial point of view was a small matter, as the mills had stopped taking it for paper-making. The demand for this purpose seems oddly spasmodic in the middle of a world war with its acute paper shortage. As one farmer said: "When I've got the straw and the transport the mills won't take it. When I've got neither, or only one or the other, they shout for more straw!" [The paper-makers' difficulties are due to a shortage of machinery suitable for handling straw, coupled with a glut of straw at certain seasons.—Ed.]

RURAL WASTAGES

Other examples of rural wastages are (a) the quantities of sawdust dumped wherever a sawnill is set up; (b) the tracts of roadside grass which go ungrazed. Surely there is useful specified employment here for boys and girls to a cattle and an opportunity for keeping large numbers of milking goats? (c) The unlimited honey harvest awaiting hive bees, of there is an altogether too small a populatic (d) The hedgerow harvest of fruits and he with the bulk of which runs to waste.

t may interest some people to know whether or not a farming enterprise like this at an aninton "pays." With prices fixed at

reasonable levels, as is the case at present for most products, there is of course a margin of profit on paper. This is not to say, however, that there is a growing credit balance in the bank. The reverse I am afraid is the case, because intensive farming for war-time production calls for expensive plant and machinery. All the profit and more has gone in this way. Tractors cost £300 to £400 each; combine-harvesters £500; binders £120; elevators £90; hammermills £120; trailer wagons £100: potatopickers £80. These are only a few items. Add to them the hundred and one others-drills, manure-distributors, ploughs, harrows, cultivators, horse-hoes, etc., and small tools of many kinds at war-time prices—and the total is somewhat staggering.

It can readily be seen, therefore, that a farmer may have to pay substantial taxes without having the cash to turn to—unless he is in the fortunate position of having spare capital from which to buy all the additional equipment which war-time needs and modern methods and the ploughing policy demand.

As for the near future of farming the Minister of Agriculture's Four-year Plan envisages the ploughing of every ploughable acre of the 10,000,000 acres of grass land in England and Wales, the extension of ley farming (or alternate husbandry) and a big increase in livestock—better bred and freer from disease than hitherto.

This programme offers enormous scope to both arable and livestock farmers; in fact it aims at converting the majority of farmers into both. It is a sound policy in the interests of the nation, the land and the farmer. The technique should be the subject of discussion and written expositions in order to make it widely known as soon as possible. Periodicals devoting themselves to rural subjects can help to effect this in a large degree, and Country LIFE, as a leader in modern thought upon agricultural subjects, will confer a benefit to the nation and farmers alike if it can see its way to publish informed articles on these very vital aspects of food production which combine with them the husbanding of the land's inestimable resources.

THE GHOST OF THE TURRET

N a September day in the 1920s I was motoring from Scotland and had planned to pass one night with a relative in an old castle, which I had been told she had modernised with genius and without destroying the character of the place. I had hoped to get there at midday and do some sight-seeing, but an unfortunate mishap to the car delayed me, and it was 8.30 p.m. before I arrived. The family were at dinner, and I joined them as I was, and before going to my room. I was so tired that I went to bed about ten o'clock. My hostess showed me to my room, and all I noticed was that I was taken down a long stone passage leading from the head of the stairs, that the door was at the end, before a turn to the right, and that therefore I was to occupy a corner room.

Although it had stone walls the room seemed a bright and large one, with windows on two sides and in the corner between them a little recess down some steps that I vaguely thought of as a "powdering closet," but which now held a bath. My things had been unpacked and I undressed and tumbled into bed quickly and fell asleep at once, without misgivings.

I woke in a panic. The room was in pitch darkness and I was overwhelmed by a feeling of horror impossible to describe. The hairs on top of my head seemed made of wires, projecting ice-cold ends into my brain, and I felt paralysed. All I heard was a tramp, tramp, tramp, as of a man in clanking armour going down a stone stair close by. I tried to reason with myself. There was no stairway near, I recalled, so how could I really be hearing those footsteps? It must be a nightmare. . . .

But it was all to no purpose. There was an interval and then came the tramp, tramp, tramp again, not of boots on stone but of steel, and it

seemed to me that of the same person, going upstairs this time. I turned icy cold; my pulse seemed to stop and I remember wondering if one could really die of fright. I thought of the bell. Where did it ring? Dare I put my hand out? Where could I go, if I could move at all? Then I knew no more, and suppose I fainted. It was light when I next opened my eyes. I was so tired, and as my experience came back I remember feeling my hair, and going to the glass to see if it had turned white or changed at all. Then I realised with relief that I was leaving the castle that day and need never be in that room again, and I began to throw off the stunned feeling with which I woke.

Next morning I was told I looked ill and asked if I had slept well. Knowing some people were rather touchy about the haunting of their houses I had decided to be careful of what I told them, so I merely said I had been wakened by what I thought was a tramping up and down a stone staircase, but it must have been imaginary, as there seemed no such stair close by. The others looked at each other, and someone said: "But there is. The turret staircase goes past that room, though the door has been built up, and you may have heard the guards who used that stair, and kept watch from the turret all night." I asked what was known of the room I had slept in, and the reply was: "The Lady of —— was kept a prisoner there in about 1380 and later walled up alive with her unborn child in the recess down the steps."

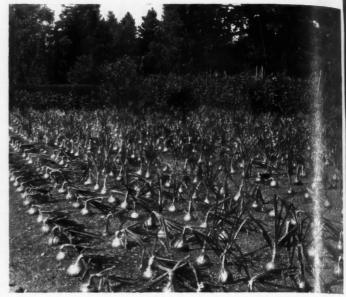
I still shake when I think of the night on which I joined—as I am convinced—in the despair and terror of that wretched woman, but I gather that others had used the room without being disturbed. Nevertheless the woman's ghost has been often seen on the turret on that side of the castle.

M. B.

LATE SUMMER AMONG THE VEGETABLES

Varieties to Sow for Winter and Spring— Harvesting the Onion Crop—The Treatment of Celery





The main onion crop ready for harvesting. In order to assist the ripening of the bulbs the foliage is bent over and the bulbs are gently eased up by means of a fork

(Left) The bulbs lifted and spread out in a greenhouse to dry off thoroughly before being stored for the winter. All bull-uecked specimens should be used as soon as possible, as these will not keep. Any bulbs with signs of disease should also be used and not stored

ITH the possible exception of a few weeks in early spring there is, perhaps, no other time of year when the gardener finds it more difficult to keep abreast of routine duties than now and during the next month. Thanks to the general conditions of the past few weeks early crops have been maturing quickly, and as they are harvested the ground requires preparation for a second crop to maintain supplies through the autumn and winter.

Growing crops, such as runner and French beans, approaching maturity require attention in the way of hoeing, mulching and watering if the weather is dry, and the same can be said of the outdoor tomatoes which at the time of writing give promise of a good crop. Onions and shallots are both ahead of the calendar this season, and the latter are ready for harvesting. Autumn-sown onions, too, are mature and ripe for gathering, and so is garlic. If not already completed, the setting out of the celery plants into their permanent quarters should be undertaken without delay and the same applies to leeks. The careful gardener will carry out a preventive spraying with Bordeaux mixture or one of the proprietary copper compounds against the dreaded blight disease of potatoes and at the same time extend the spraying to the outdoor tomatoes which are afflicted with the same disease. A watch must also be kept for mildew, especially on late-sown peas. there are signs of attack dust the plants with flowers of sulphur, including the vegetable marrows in the dusting, as these are also subject to the trouble. A dusting with derris will ward off caterpillars from the cabbage and other green crops and check black fly on the runner beans. Each and all these are duties to which the vigilant gardener must attend, if he is to reap an abundant harvest of clean and good quality

Perhaps the most urgent task is to get all the early crops, such as peas and potatoes, early carrots, turnips and onions, cleared off the ground as quickly as possible to make room for later supplies. The ground from which the early potatoes have been taken makes an excellent site for the sowing of the crop of cabbage for next spring. All that need be done is to give a dressing of lime, tread down the surface well to

secure a firm base, and draw shallow drills about a foot apart. Before sowing, water the drills well, a precaution that should be taken with all summer sowings, and sow thinly, not merely as an economy in seed but to ensure robust and stocky plants that will transplant well. After sowing, apply a mulch of lawn mowings over the rows to conserve the surface moisture.

Carrots, both main-crop and the early stump-rooted varieties to provide young roots in the autumn, beetroot, turnips, parsley and spinach are other crops that can be sown now. The last-named will do well in a shady place, and the plants should be thinned out to about a foot apart. For saladings, during the winter, a thin sowing of the green curled and the broadleaved Batavian endive is well worth while, and occasional sowings of lettuce should not be forgotten, a variety such as Ideal being selected for use during the autumn. In ground cleared of early potatoes another sowing of French beans can be made with advantage to come in

during September, when they will be most welcome.

Now that the leaves have turned yellow and are withering off, the cloves of shallots should be lifted carefully and dried in the sun, turning them over occasionally to ensure thorough ripening before storing them. Garlic, too, should be lifted while still green, but when growth has finished, and laid out in rows until the leaves have withered, when the cloves can be cleared and stored. The leaves of the earlysown onions are already beginning to fall over, and when this is evident the process of ripening should be assisted by bending over the foliage with the back of a rake, as shown in one of the

accompanying illustrations and easing up the bulbs slightly with a fork. After a few days the bulbs can be lifted and laid out on the ground to dry in the sun or placed on the floor of a greenhouse, where they should be turned over occasionally to assist thorough ripening before being tied in bunches and stored for the winter.

There should be no delay now in putting out the last of the celery plants into their permanent quarters, taking the precaution to lift each plant with a good ball of soil and watering well before lifting. Firm planting is necessary, the plants being put out about a foot apart in the rows and being dusted with soot a day or two afterwards. Any early rows wanted for use in late September or so should now have all the side growths removed, as well as the small lower leaves, and the stalks tied loosely with raffia to keep them together and the plants in an upright position. A spraying with Burgundy mixture will help to prevent rust disease, and, if celery fly is troublesome, spraying



Hoeing through a crop of leeks. This crop should now be growing well and requires an occasional hoeing



To make ain a supply of young carrots through the autumn, success al sowings of the stump-rooted varieties should be made during the next few weeks



Celery tied with a strand of raffia prior to earthing up. This crop now requires plenty of soot overhead and ample water at the root. All side growths should be removed

with qu ssia will probably check the pest. So f r, in the south at least, the main-crop potatoes look well and clean, but the gardener will be v se to give the plants a spraying with Bordeank mixture, Burgundy mixture or one of the leady-made copper compounds as a preventive against "blight." The first symptoms of the trouble show as brownish spots on the foliage, and, with a bad infection and under suitable conditions of moist and muggy weather, the trouble soon spreads to stems and tubers. Any badly infected plants should be lifted and destroyed, and if the protective film of copper applied in the first spraying is washed off by rain a second should be given. This preventive spraying should include outdoor tomatoes,

which are subject to the same trouble and yet are so often neglected, with the result that a considerable proportion of the crop, especially green fruits gathered at the end of September and put on shelves to ripen slowly, becomes a total loss. As with the potatoes, the first signs of infection are dark brownish or purplish areas on the leaves, and later similar patches show on the fruits, the first stage in the complete decay of the tissues. Early spraying with a copper compound is advisable and the best insurance against the trouble and consequent loss of valuable fruit. It is important to keep all the side shoots removed from the tomato plants and advisable to stop them at the fourth truss. Little or no good results from letting

the plants run up to make five or six trusses outdoors. A surface mulch of lawn mowings or some littery material will prove beneficial in conserving surface moisture and reducing the need for watering in dry spells, which is never advisable with outdoor tomatoes.

A good soaking with liquid manure will benefit both the vegetable marrows and the globe artichokes from which all the yellowing foliage should be removed. Mulching with manure will also help the runner beans, especially after they have had a good soaking at the root, and, if the weather is dry and hot, a light spraying overhead with rain water, preferably in the evening, is of the greatest benefit to the plants.

G. C. Taylor.

ALIEN SHEEP - By E. L. GRANT WATSON

LTHOUGH sheep have been domesticated in England from remote periods, and although British pedigree animals have been in constant demand for export from these islands, which have become in the eyes of foreign buyers their ancestral home, and although English sheep are world-famous, yet, viewed individually at close range they still retain a singularly foreign appearance.

The sheep's countenance speaks of Asiatic highlands. A Semite, it has wandered with Father Abraham from Ur of the Chaldees to the shores of Palestine; its pattering feet have found their way over the slopes of Mount Hermon, and it has coughed its way down the valley of Jordan. It has been moulded by nature to live in the vicinity of rocks, where its rounded shape affords protection, making it to appear as a stone among stones. Its expression is singularly un-European, at once sapient and foolish: sapient by virtue of its antiquity, foolish in its woolly wig, fringing a shaven face. It is the Asiatic caricature of the typical aunt, upon whose prominent nose one might expect to find gold-rimmed spectacles. It is complacent in its own drollness, yet possessing dignity that the most atavistic of its habits cannot destroy. At close range it is an enigma from the Orient, and the meditative eye is unable to plumb its y or read its secret. myst

a distance the sheep has a different and among its fellows has become part English landscape. The grazing flock over the rounded surface of the down; at the gradient of the darth, mound and changing its contours, and the unit, which form the flock, when they can be accrued, suggest a mystical participation with the earth they tread, and with the vegetation they eat.

Our English downland-flora are as they are because of the sheep. Their flowers grow on short stems, close to the earth, flowering quickly, and seeding quickly, lest they should not find time enough for their propagation before the close-cropping teeth of the sheep tear them from their roots. The wandering flocks have imposed this habit on them, and only when the sheep are absent will the stems gradually lengthen, the flowers grow larger, and the accelerated life-rhythm become slowed to its normal pitch. As the sheep have grown to be part of the landscape, so they have moulded the landscape to themselves. The flocks, streaming across a hillside, advancing slowly, like retarded cloud-patterns, have transferred from the lands of their distant origin the architypal hieroglyphs of their earthly significance, and these have become the well-known letters of our English alphabet, spelling the meanings of our farm lands, and of our hearts.

We see in these wool-enfolded bodies and their odd eastern physiognomies more than mutton and wool, and, coming on them at the lambing season on an evening of clear sky, with frost in the air, we listen to their bleating voices, and snuff their strong, rank smell, and share with the old man, their shepherd, who is banking straw against some hurdles for breakwind, something of his incommunicable affection and power of guardianship. His and ours are the feelings of "The Good Shepherd," and we do not then think of the day when they are to be sold as mutton or lamb, but only of the present, when, needing protection, they recognise his goodwill as part of their heritage. They are become a symbol and stand for many undefined things; each is potentially the lost sheep of which the Gospels speak. It is for one of these that the shepherd will leave his ninety-and-nine. From them is the Paschal lamb of

sacrifice, the propitiation of sins, lifting forgiveness to heaven from the scarlet blood of sacrifice; and in our thought they become at last, and inevitably, the slaughtered animal of the butcher's shop, whose cloven head, exposed brain and protruding tongue is a horror to our cultural aspirations.

Into the lopsided remnant of a haystack they have eaten their way. It sags above their steaming bodies, and their quick breaths, coming from under it, are clouds in the frosty air. They are secure in their shelter and trustful of the old man, who, like the landscape, has taken on some quality of their own. His dog crouches at his feet; the twilight deepens, and the bleatings of the flock follow up the valley, carried afar on the still, frosty air.

Later in the year, some favoured ewes and their lambs will be turned on to the sprouting wheatfields. Here they help pack the soil, both with their feet and the weight of their reclining bodies, affording the young plants a better roothold. They nibble the forward shoots, obtaining food for themselves and at the same time forcing the plants to put out two or three supplementary shoots in place of the one original. In this way the crop is thickened and strengthened. Better straw is produced, not so likely to grow too long nor to be so easily beaten down by wind or rain at harvest-time.

The sheep thus get their living for a week or so, contributing their droppings as a scattered dressing. Amid the pale green contours of the fields they are woolly powder-puffs with shining haloes, where the sun strikes and is reflected. Their lambs, showing but fainter outlines, gambol on long legs, straying far from their mothers, until, hunger-reminded, they scamper back to butt at the udders, their tails writhing and trembling in delight.

CORRESPONDENCE

FURTHER "CANINE CONCLUSIONS ''

IR,-I have often wondered why the large poodle has not been used for the war work of which Miss Huldine for the war work of which Miss Huidine Beamish writes so interestingly in her article (July 2). It seems to me that this breed has all the attributes that Miss Beamish requires. They are generally accepted by those who know them to be the most intelligent breed there is (although this will no breed there is (although this will no doubt be disputed by all owners of all other breeds!). Unfortunately, all other breeds!). Unfortunately, their original purpose, that of an all-round gun-dog, has been lost in the mists of time, but the sporting instinct is very strong in them and they are one of the easiest breeds to train to a gun. I can only imagine that the fact that none of them appears to have been offered for this work is because others every like myself cannot

other owners, like myself, cannot bring themselves to part with such a treasured companion! In these days it must be hard for owners of kennels to find food for any number of dogs, and if Miss Beamish gets the opportunity of obtaining a poodle from a kennel that might wish to reduce its numbers for the duration of the war, I am sure she will find that my claims for this breed are fully justified.— PHYLLIS C. MACKIE, The Old Forge, Stoke St. Mary, Taunton, Somerset.

DOG LOVERS

SIR,—Please accept my congratulations on publishing the best article on dogs that I have read for years. I refer to Canine Conclusions, by Huldine V. Beamish. This does not mean that I agree entirely with what Miss Beamish writes, but I respect her judgment and opinion.

When I met a dog-lover friend

this was part of our conversation:
Self: "Did you read the article

, Self: "Did you read the article on dogs in COUNTRY LIFE?" Friend: "Yes, very good; what do you think?" Self: "Excellent: wish we

Self: "Excellent: wish we could read more like that."
Friend: "Yes, indeed, instead of rot about show dogs and their points." points."

There must be very many of our readers who think as we do.—
MURRAY THOMSON, 11, Melville Place, Edinburgh, 3.

BULL TERRIERS

SIR,—As a constant and therefore, in these days, very obviously, an enthusiastic reader of your admirable paper, it is seldom that I find an article in it that is open to criticism, but that by Miss Huldine V. Beamish is one that most distinctly calls for is one that most distinctly calls for comment

comment.

In it Miss Beamish goes out of her way to compare the mental capacity and the physical attributes of the Alsatian wolfhound with the similar properties in the white bull terrier, to the detriment of the latter. Comparisons are admittedly odious!

The Alsatian wolfhound is a direct descendant of the German wolf and but for the soft-heartedness of

and, but for the soft-heartedness of the Kennel Club, would never have been recognised as a distinct breed of dog in this country. He is admittedly clever but in my opinion absolutely untrustworthy, deceifful to a degree, and a coward of the lowest description when cornered. The white bull terrier when cornered. The white built terrier on the other hand, originating as he does from a cross between the old British bulldog and one or more of the many varieties of terrier, is like the true Britisher, of a quiet, contented disposition. To anyone who knows him it is impossible to conceive him a provided. It have doing anything crooked. I have always found him absolutely trustworthy with children and, incidentally devoted to them. His courage and pluck are indomitable. He never picks a quarrel, but like his counter-part in the human race, if someone else does, then it is, put bluntly, Heaven help the someone

had much to do with bull terriers until I started this general training." May it not have been evidence of their intelligence that they declined to do what somebody who knows nothing them suggested that they about should do?

I am not wasting all this space of yours as a novice or as a mere bull terrier "fan," but as the author of the first monograph ever published on the breed; a judge who for many years held the record for the number of entries entered under him or her, at Cruft's, in bull terrier classes. I issue, and feel I am entitled to claim the record for "our" cuckoo. On a somewhat noisy night here, about the middle of May, in the midst of whirling planes and much anti-aircraft gunfire, etc., our cuckoo's persistent note was heard above all the din! Thinking he heard above all the din! Thinking he might induce sleep, I proceeded to count, but after counting 422 consecutive "cuck-oos" (with only one very slight pause), I decided to try to sleep without his aid.

I should like to say how I look forward each week to the next copy of Country Life. After reading it, I send it to two lots of sisters, and

Lichel Tigg Coffermaker coarses attolioners as follows For his Mans for eight people panis at 2. 5. 4 Two hunder coursed with milian Leather with disented the lock of the Two hunder consoder milians 4 Forthe Pages of his Ovali Fede hamoer For and Handand good with tor has makes Color Ko board sound with aundres 88 10 March 30 1,668 17 .5 .4 Frag upon sight hirosof Sougurle. Me Pigg Cofformak & this Bells of Searth Loons pound of fine she to and for exponse & take his Riverphings. Books forthe Los To Thomas Townsend End the Deputy with right from the charles of the Maringreus Store .

A 17th-CENTURY ACCOUNT OF ROYAL COFFERS

See letter: Royal Coffers

was also the owner of the once-famous bull terrier kennels which con-K bull terrier kennels which contained such well-known dogs as Krimson Kiss, Klassikal Klara, Krismas Kracker, etc., and lastly was the discoverer with Professor Crewe, of Edinburgh, of the cause of deafness in the white bull terrier and other colourless breeds.—Adair Dighton, Kneesworth, near Royston, Hertfordshire.

TIMING THE CUCKOO

From The Countess Peel.

SIR.—With reference to the interesting letter of Mr. Philip Robinson, Timing the Cuckoo, I was living in a cottage in Hampshire during the last war. A cuckoo settled in a hedge under my bedroom window early in the morning and called without ceasing 104 times. By then I got tired of his long discourse and got out of bed and dealt with him by means of a jug of water. I am sorry now that I so rudely interrupted his discourse.—Eleanor Peel, Kelso.

SIR.—I read with much interest your From The Countess Peel.

SIR,—I read with much interest your correspondent's letter in June 30

from one of them in a small Sussex village, it goes out to a member of the R.A.F. in Canada.—Olive Hawkes-Cornock, Moneens, Budleigh Salterton, Devon

NOTES FROM NORTH UIST

SIR,-The submerged forest of Scots fir and birch roots which shows occasionally at low tide has been uncovered again. It is supposed to extend far beyond St. Kilda. The common gulls' nests on a small tidal common guis nests on a sman tidal island here were robbed at the beginning of the breeding season but on June 8 I was pleased to find that quite a number had laid again and most of the nests contained three eggs. On the same day I found an eider's nest with face over Plack headed guide. with five eggs. Black-headed gulls are, I am glad to say, more numerous as a breeding species this year than for some years back; in fact I have found more of their nests than those of the common gull this season, but the latter is much scarcer in proportion than usual. The wild yellow iris was in flower on June 2. The first Arctic tern's nest to be seen was on June 15. There were only two eggs but the nest was more elaborate than usual, being well lined with dried grasses. Oystercatchers are plentiful and I have found quite a number of their nests, most of them containing three eggs. In the large bog several snipe have their eggs already and on a calmish evening quite a lot of "drumming" is to be heard. The birds nessing in the garden in the veronica bushes are the thrush, blackbird and twite. One or two nests are even in the wall tern's nest to be seen was on June 15. the thrush, blackbird and twite, or two nests are even in the which surrounds the garden corncake is becoming very here. A few years ago when 1 but during the summer they we perfect nuisance, their "crake" carting me from the surrounder. wall The vas ill ere a venting me from sleeping.
seen them only once this ye have heard them only perhaps a doze The red-necked phalarope is times absent from its old nesting haunt blame the rats, for I once fo old bird eaten and the four od the dead and it was certainly a ra

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was the culprit.

The curlew does not nest in Uist. but this year there are quite a number of them remaining with us, which seems rather strange. Other non-breeding birds are the bar-tailed godwit, of which about 30 are daily to be seen, and several turnstones in full breeding plumage. Mallard appear to be nesting in fewer numbers here as the years go by: it is a great pity.—G. B., North Uist.

[Our correspondent's reference to the decrease of the correspondent.]

the decrease of the corncrake in North Uist is of considerable interest in view of the fact that this species has practically disappeared from England, but it was hoped that it was maintaining its ground in more arthern parties of the Daties Line. northern parts of the British Isles. It seems possible that the time may come when it will be unknown as a British breeding bird, though why is a mystery.—Ed.]

ROYAL COFFERS

From Lady Ruggles-Brise.

SIR,—As a footnote to my letter about coffers published on April 30, I have recently discovered in the Connoisseur (which kindly gives me permission to reproduce it) an account dated 1668 for "Two trunkes covered wh Russia Leather wth drawers: the lockes of the Best. For the Pages of his Maties Bedchamber." This was supplied by Richard Pigg, Coffermaker to "Thomas Townsend, Esqre Deputy to the right Honble the Earle of Sandwich Mar of his Maties great Wardrobe." — Sheelah Ruggles-Brise, Midford Castle, Bath. SIR.—As a footnote to my letter about

A STOAT'S GAMBOLS

SIR,-I have just had a most unusual experience with a stoat which you may consider of sufficient interest for publication.

My wife and I were standing at My wife and I were standing at a gate in a country lane when a stoat came out of the gate and started playing about in the grass quite close to us. He looked up at us but paid no attention to us, and after playing about for some minutes he went across the road into the grass on the roadside. I went across the road and found him crouching in the grass roadside. I went across the road and found him crouching in the grass looking up at me. Then the stoat came out on to the road and commenced running along the roadside. I followed and walked alongside the stoat for about 150 yards. Then he stood still and looked up at me, and after looking at me for about a mute, he suddenly darted towards me and he suddenly darted towards me commenced trying to bite my This went on for a minute or so This went on for a minute of so then he drew away about a yard looked up at me again. So I the end of my walking-stick on ground just beside him and he re over on his back and started to with the walking-stick with both find him paws just like a kitt. and hind paws, just like a kitten. Finally he seemed to get bored with playing and slowly wandered off under some blackberry thorns growing on the roadside. The whole episode took about

The whole episode took about ten minutes and was accompanied by a chorus of alarm notes from birds in the trees overhead. The stoat appeared to me to be fully grown, being about 12 ins. in length with a tail of about the same length.

I should be interested to hear if

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I should be interested to hear it any of your readers have had a similar experience.—C. CAFFERATA, River-lym, Fiskerton, near Newark.

It is robable that the stoat was

[It is robable that the stoat was a full-great young male, at the inquisitive age, and as our correspondent overcame s inherent timidity.—Ep.]

YORK CHEST

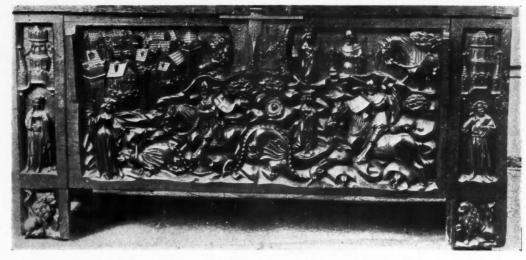
ographs of several church appeared in your columns at surely few can compare nagnificent specimen preserved in Chapter House at York

te is early fifteenth cenfigures give vivid repreif St. George and the Dragon ss Cleodolinda. There are of the original vermilion on the central panel.

and gilder on the central panel.

It is very there is only one other specimen of a church chest which gives sure incidents of knightly prowess, and that is in a church in Kent.—H & Illingwworh, Harrogate.

[The elebrated York chest shows a favourite mediæval version of the story of St. George, the wounded monster being led off into captivity by the virgin Princess, while the King and Queen survey the scene from their castle windows in the city of Memphis. The Dictionary of Furniture adds: "Among the steeppitched roofs may be detected a crow-stepped gable, and this detail figures again more prominently on a contemporary coffer front depicting a similar scene, at the Victoria and Albert Museum. As this particular form of gable does not appear in



ST. GEORGE AND THE DRAGON ON THE YORK CHEST: HOUSE WITH CROW-STEPPED GABLE IN THE BACKGROUND

See letter: The York Chest

English architecture until a much later date, there is a strong presumption that the design of these chests was derived from the Low Countries, where at Ypres, and other towns, fine specimens survive. They were probably seen, and perhaps carried off to be copied at home, by English craftsmen serving on the Continent under Edward III; though the possibility of a foreign origin must also be taken into account."—ED.]

AN ELIZABETHAN CHIMNEY-STACK

SIR,—Mention of the chimney-stack at Reddacleave Farm in the article on Dean Prior, Devon, in your issue of June 18 prompts me to send you this drawing. It may be of interest to those of your readers who find delight in architecture, masonry and craftsmanship; and also to the supporters of pre-

fabricated, mass-produced, sectional houses.

The age of the building is conjectural but was probably Elizabethan. The stack was central, the kitchen being this side and the parlour behind. To the layman the greatest interest is in the two upright stones on the left of the fireplaces. These are only 6 ins. thick and yet support much of the great weight of the stack. Unless they were placed exactly vertical they would buckle, with obvious disastrous results. This seems to be a triumph of very skilful masonry.

The oak beam above the lower fireplace is still in good condition and thickly studded with hand-wrought nails. On the right of the opening can be seen the old baking-oven with the light shining through. Until quite recently the old iron door was still in position. The floor has silted up with rubble so that the beam is only about 4 ft. 6 ins. above the ground. The walls of the house have almost disappeared, as cob unprotected soon disintegrates, but it is surprising to learn that the building was inhabited as recently as 60 years ago.—James Thorpe, Dean Prior, Buckfastleigh, South Devon.

ITCHEN VALLEY DRAINAGE

SIR,—In 1917 the Chilland meadows near Winchester were allowed to go out of cultivation and have steadily deteriorated since that date. Whether they should be reclaimed as water meadows or as dry meadows is a matter open to discussion, but I think we are all agreed that they should be reclaimed. With this in view dredging of the

With this in view dredging of the drawns has been carried out. Apparently the assumption has been made that all the work our grandfathers did was wrong, but as an engineer (I am a M.Inst.C.E.) I am of the opinion that the engineering ability exhibited by those that laid out these water meadows was of a higher order than that we are seeing now. This has led to the expenditure of a large amount of public money as well as the landlord's contribution, and the labour required to rectify the secondary effects of the operations carried out will be very considerable.

considerable.

Let me first state facts before discussing what should or should not have been done. These water meadows grazed sheep for four to six weeks in the spring, then gave a hay crop of two to three tons to the acre and then grazed cattle for two months in the autumn. To work them as water meadows the water could be fed through the carriers to drown the meadows, or the meadows could be dried by means of the drawns when the carrier hatches were closed. Drowning not only watered the meadow but protected the young grass from frost and gave a top-dressing to the whole meadow.

The slogans of good management were "Water on quick, water off quick," and "Keep the mouths of your drawns open."

Now it is obvious that if we wish to restore the meadows as water meadows we should have to re-build the hatches, clear the carriers and drawns and stop any break-throughs. If however we only wish to reclaim them as dry meadows it is necessary only to restore the conditions of "Water off." This is, clear the drawns of obstructions such as trees, etc., stop off the carriers and clear the mouths of the drawns. The levels are right because they did dry the meadows; in fact they are very cleverly laid out.

The conditions before dredging commenced were as follows. The hatches being all broken, water was in the carriers and was dribbling on to the meadows but not getting off the meadows because the drawns were blocked by fallen trees, etc., and their mouths were not open. The drawns discharge into the main river and the weed in the main river must be cut so as to prevent the level of water from rising in the summer.

Although the river is gin-clear in appearance, if the velocity of flow is reduced below a certain amount, as in a mill pool, there is a large deposit of mud, and the weed-cutting under these conditions entails about four times the labour required when the bottom is of gravel.

Our forbears knew this and therefore we find the main drawns are carriers for the most part a foot to 15 ins. deep with a gravel bottom.

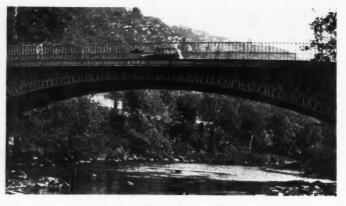
The dredger has now been along to make the drawns 3 ft. deep, the work being carried out in the following sequence.

Dredging was started at the mouth of a main drawn; this was deepened and widened and a two-arch brick bridge pulled out, about 100 tons of gravel deposited on the mouths of the meadow drawns delivering into the main drawn. This was done when there was a flow of water from a break-through past the dredger, and as the dredger worked up-stream some of the mud stirred up was deposited in the dredged part and some was washed into the main stream. When the dredger had reached the break-through, but not before, the break-through was stopped. The dredger then proceeded up the drawn through a particularly muddy and silted up section. Water was flowing down a carrier above this section. This carrier was then blocked so that the water again passed the dredger on the latter's progress up-stream. The result was that more mud was washed into the river and the newly dredged drawn filled up so that it was shallower than originally; in fact mudbanks were above water level. When



THE CHIMNEY-STACK AT REDDACLEAVE FARM

See letter: An Elizabethan Chimney-stack



A WAR MEMORIAL BRIDGE

See letter: A Waterloo Bridge

the dredger had completed about one mile and had left behind it a silted-up ditch, it was decided to rectify this by flushing through. This was done, with the result that another two to three hundred tons of mud was washed into the main stream. But the depth water in the main drawn is rather less than it was before dredging started, but it is a muddy instead of a gravel bottom.

The mud in the main stream is foot to 18 ins. deep over a considerable area. The labour of weed-cutting has been trebled, and as weed is cut this mud can only be sent on to deposit again further down-stream

esponsible for the main stream -WALTER G. WILSON, Lower Chilland House near Winchester

bridge, which crosses the River Conway below Talycafn. As you will see from my photograph, it com-memorates a great British victory.— M. DILL, Llys Aled, Henllan, Denbigh

IN A LINCOLN CHURCH

SIR,-The beautiful specimen of wrought iron-work shown in my photo-

graph was salvaged some years ago and is now used as a candle-bracket in St. Benedict's Church, Lincoln. Origin-ally it formed part of the Lincoln Corporation Mace Stand (1724) and was put to its present use by the caretaker of the church, who is a keen antiquary. It will be noticed that a sanctus bell has been added.

American iasts and many museum authorities have repeatedly offered to buy this fine piece of craftsmanship, but I am assured that it will not be moved from this lovely little church which is to-day largely devoted to the spiritual welfare of the deaf and dumb.-G. B. Wood, Leeds, 8.

The caretaker of St. Benedict's seems to have shown a keener appreciation of beauty than the Corporation of Lincoln.—Ed.]



SIR -In A Countryman's Notes in your issue of June 25, Major C. S. Jarvis tells of a pony he rode during the Boer War which was more anxious to get away from the enemy than he was and recalls two driving ponies which would dash ahead as the passengers climbed into the dog-cart. In short he suffered the ever-present and most exasperating experience of riding and driving a headstrong pony and he suggested that I may tell him that 'these regrettable displays were due entirely to bad horsemastership.

I feel this is not quite the right description and I suggest that the trouble lay in bad training, or more trouble lay in bad training, or more likely the pony's natural inclination to move forward remaining un-checked. To mount a horse which will not stand is irritating, tiring and calculated to disturb the rider's nerves, which will in turn upset the horse's nerves unless he is careful. This bad

habit can be cured and in case this habit can be cured and in case this may be read by those who own such headstrong horses, I suggest the following procedure which I have tried with success.

When you are mounting, and this should be from a mounting block as likely to cause less disturbance to the horse, let someone stand face to face with the horse and let a crust of bread or lump of sugar (though of course it is almost a penal offence to offer such in these days) be fed to the horse as the rider starts the act of mounting. He will have plenty of time to settle in the saddle and then let the horse walk on. I think it will be found that this only has to be repeated a few times and the horse will stand while being mounted. When the assistant is dispensed with, let the rider hand out the good thing to the horse immediately before the mounting, and for a time or two let him do it from the saddle. I doubt whether there will be a renewal of wilfulness, especially if the process is carried out quietly and accompanied by a soothing voice.

The same procedure should be adopted with the driving horse, but here after the offering is made the assistant should walk by the side of the horse with a light hand on the

rein if necessary, ready to check any tendency dash forward and to offer again some-thing good. With this trouble I believe the mind of the horse works on a sound reasoning basis. He assumes that when a rider mounts it is the office to move forward and so he starts without a moment's pause. Food first, mounting next, followed by the move off is some-thing he can understand readily.

In all but very bad

cases this will be found infallible and the services of the assistant can soon be dispensed with.—R. S. SUMMER-HAYS (Editor Riding).

CAPTAIN THOMAS WEBB

SIR,-Captain Thomas Webb, who is portrayed in the stained-glass window in Portland Methodist Chapel, Kingsdown, Bristol, of which I send a photograph, was a famous soldier, and fought beside Wolfe at Quebec in 1759.

he lost an eye and suffered injury to his right arm. He founded Methodism in parts of the American Continent and recently two of America's earliest churches celebrated the 150th anniversary of their founding by Webb, who also began this Portland Chapel in Bristol in 1792. In 1765 he, with others, took a small rigging house in New York (then still British) and a

tiny sail loft became the first Methodist Chapel in America. Webb used to preach, as shown, in scarlet uniform sword across open Bible. Wesley had a great admiration for him. Webl founded churches at Bristol, Penn-sylvania and Burlington on the Dela ware River. He was buried here the crypt in 1796.—F. W., Bristol.

A SNOW-BUNTING IN HERTFORDSHIRE

-Last October I sent you a note that I had seen a male snow-bunting near this village. About a month ago I again saw a male snow-bunting in the same locality. It seemed, much less tame than the bi seen in October. Is it poss the bird has nested in this e that -E. H. STRANGE, Flint Cotta, den, near Buntingford, Hert dshire

[The snow-bunting does reed in Britain but only on the mou ains of Scotland and we are at a loss what a male snow-bunting know uld b doing in June in the south of

MAISY GROWS UP

SIR,—In your issue of Septer ber 11, 1942, a photograph appeared baisy and Maisy at Home. Here is another snapshot of Maisy growing up



DER OF METHODISM IN CAPTAIN THOMAS WEBB U.S.A.

See letter: Captain Thomas Webb

to be a young lady, playing with her new friend Ginger. Maisy is still very fond of balancing herself on anything In the country, animals are perhaps the chief theme of everyday life. There is lots of fun and amusement in watching these healthy animals while they are playing among themselves.— B. Chulindra, Lynam House, Rock, near Wadebridge, Cornwall.



MAISY AND A NEW FRIEND See latter: Maisy Grows Up

UTIFUL SPECIMEN OF CENTURY IRON-WORK 18th-

See letter: In a Lincoln Church

Now in the first place I am certain that it was a mistake to widen and deepen the drawns, but if it is decided to do so surely it would only have been common sense to shut off the breakthrough before, not after, dredging and to have closed the carrier at its up-stream end above the dredging operations instead of making it a flow past the dredger. Then to try to rectify these mistakes by a flush through seems to me to be very foolish.

That the fishing has been completely spoiled for this season and has been, as I think, permanently injured is of secondary importance to-day, but if you think it would interest your readers I will sketch that aspect of the work done, but I think I have said enough to show that much labour, time and money have been wasted and more work put on to those

A WATERLOO BRIDGE SIR,—Your readers may like to see this picture of a fine wrought-iron



A leisurely trundling wagon fills the lane and wisps of its fragrant load cling to the tangled hedgerows. Further up the lane grows wider, meets the main road. Then you can pass and the Bentley, now whispering, barely moving, will gain its stride and speed like a bird in the summer sunshine . . .

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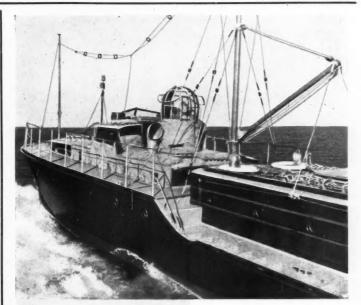
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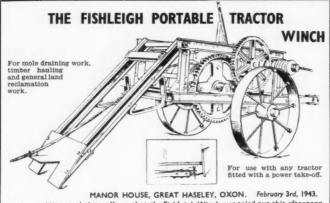
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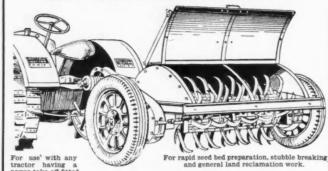


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FARMING NOTES

MORE LIVESTOCK NEEDED

ITH the gradual increase of grass and clover leys
there should be keep for
more grazing livestock on
cur farms. The general
opinion is that cattle are more suitable for grazing leys than sheep, but the type of stock does not matter so much if the ley is to remain down for only one or two years. Sheep have the reputation of nibbling out the hearts of clover, and if Aberystwyth S 100 of clover, and if Aberystwyth \$100 or some special strain has been sown it would be folly to spoil a long ley in its first year. I think the effect of grazing on a ley depends largely on the management. If stock are left to graze at will over a large area the berbare gets overstrought. herbage gets overgrown at some seasons and punished too hard at others. "On and off" grazing with cattle as well as sheep is probably the ideal. If we are to get more sheep on to our farms again some will no doubt be tempted to try breeding from Leicester cross Cheviot ewe lambs; that is the usual half-bred type. that is the usual half-bred type. Mr. T. A. McArthur of Strathpeffer, in Ross-shire, who has for many years sent sheep to southern farmers, is a strong advocate of this practice. He points out that it saves a whole year's keep and brings the ewes into production. duction a season sooner without stunting their growth. He claims that stunting their growth. He claims that if they are bred from as ewe lambs they will give a good crop, and taking together the first two years 100 ewes will give 250 lambs against about 100 lambs from maiden ewes which have not been bred from as lambs. The essential points are that the sheep must be the right type; they must go on to suitable land, and they must be sent to England early in the season. season.

For this job Mr. McArthur likes the ewe lambs from the big type Sutherlandshire ewes bred to a Leicester ram. Sent south in August the ewe lambs do well on the corn stub-bles and sugar-beet tops and can be bles and sugar-beet tops and can be folded. They will not do well enough on worn-out pasture on downs or land that is inclined to be sheep-sick. Various rams of the Down breeds have been used with success, including Suffolks, Southdowns, Oxfords, Shropshires and Hampshires, but care should be taken not to use a ram too coarse in the head. One- or two-shear Suffolks do as well as any. This breeding from ewe lambs is not a new practice to some farmers in the south. The Royal Agricultural College at Cirencester carried out quite a successful trial some years ago, and I know that some farmers in Hampshire regularly buy ewe lambs from the north for breeding in their first season. Certainly they need extra care but with the leave are being certablished. Certainly they need extra care but with the leys now being established on clean ground this practice could be tried more widely.

HERE will be room also on many farms for more cattle farms for more cattle. We have more than when the war started, more than when the war started, despite the ploughing-up of 6,000,000 acres of old grass land. The remaining grass is being more closely stocked and the new temporary pastures established on the arable land are proving highly productive. The amount of grazing they give and the quantity of hay cut off these leys this year has been a revelation to many ear has been a revelation to many But few have yet thought seriously about carrying more cattle in 1944 and succeeding years when they will have a still larger proportion of productive leys for summer grazing and still more straw to be trodden into farm-yard manure in the winter.

so far as farmers have been buying store cattle they have gone buying store cattle they have gone for the big, coarser sorts which can deal with a good deal of rough age and make carcasses that weigh whill when it comes to the Ministry of Food grading. We shall now have by think about rearing more calves of the food and the store while the store of the store while the store of the of type as well as dairy heifer calves should be made this autumn. ing the campaign for more calving to get more winter m autum will be many thousands calves on the markets. Too these should not be slaughveal. Most of them may extra any weal. Most of them may not be the ideal beef type, but they will be worth rearing to produce meat and also to convert straw into the organic fertility that the tillage land needs. Such calves, which are to be yarded for at least two winters, should be dehorned by the caustic potach treatment as early as possible. Obviously they will not tread as much traw as older cattle in their first year, but they will be growing into money all the time. In my view the value of commercial cattle will tend to increase rather than decline for some time to rather than decline for some time to come and a good bunch of young-sters will prove a sound investment.

TH

THE quality of the hay made this year should be quite good. Very few fields were seriously spoilt by the intermittent June rains. Indeed, where cutting had begun the swathe had not been moved at all in many cases and the winds dried off the moisture before harm was done. Then we had some wonderful drying days when hav-making went fast and days when hay-making went fast and many ricks could be got together in a few days. The dry time suited the hay, but not the roots. The fly has been persistently busy on the turnips and kale. It's the old story of the farmer's gloom: Because either the rain is destroying his

grain Or the drought is destroying his roots Yet somehow we survive. Certainly the sunny spell did a world of good to

the wheat. WE are all being asked to take part of the phosphates for autumn use in the form of basic slag. autumn use in the form of basic slag. As I understand the matter basic slag has to be cleared from the works before superphosphate is delivered to farmers. Slag is not the fertiliser ordinarily used on wheat. We always think of it for bringing on the clover in grass fields. But there is no reason when it should be the clover in grass fields. But there is no reason when it should why it should not give good results why it should not give good results on tillage ground and particularly for wheat which has a long growing season. Another new rule is that no nitrogen is to be applied to the autumn-sown crops except with the permission of War Agricultural Com-mittees. The idea no doubt is that a preportion of the nitrogen applied in mittees. The idea no doubt is that a proportion of the nitrogen applied in the autumn is washed out of the soil by the winter rains and the benefit lost. But a little nitrogen—say ½ cwt. to the acre—in the autumn does help the wheat to make a good start on ground that is not overfertile. The War Agricultural Committees will be able to use the r discretion, and I for one shall cet ainly cretion, and I, for one, shall cer apply to be allowed to use nitrogen on two of my fields th ainly will be carrying a second successive crop and I hope I shall be a marry the phosphates and nitro the form of granular fertiliser can be put in by the combine There is no doubt that puttin fertiliser up against the seed, which combine drill does, makes for results and strong growth from start. CINCINNATUS

THE ESTATE MARKET

A PERIOD OF PROCRASTINATION

E copybooks impress on the budding mind that the factice of putting off till factorious what can be done o-morrow what can be done day is the thief of time. the management, acquision property, this truth is but, know it ever so well, or the would-be buyer or abouring under difficulties. Applied to well kno vendor a

NNING DECISIONS AWAITED RE-P

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s urban property, especi-London and the suburbs, elay on the part of the in announcing any deciin announcing any deci-espect to re-planning and ion has left owners in the true measure of the hat they own. In some suggested re-planning of leave what have hitherto up sites merely part of a re in future. Settlement of land thus changed in chare a very slow business and, quite like v, a very contentious one.

NEC SSARY JOURNEYS

IN the ountry districts the volume and lettings is reduced to ent because of the obstacles ing. In a normal period a would b buyer of a country property nge with some trusted valuer could ar mpany him to inspect the and, if any points were and reserved for further ation on the spot, he could go th the greatest ease. Now it to acco property doubt(u) again with the greatest ease. Now it is exceedingly difficult to find a valuer with the requisite free time to enable him to make a detailed inspection of landed property and, without the use of a motor car, a buyer is apt to find the journey, if he makes it, so toilsome and time-wasting that his enthusiasm for even a tempting bargain is likely to evaporate.

BASIS OF COMPENSATION

ROM what has already been decided it would seem that in the vent of the absorption of a site into built on, the basis of compensation will be the value as in September, 1939. Unfortunately, for a vast number of owners this was much number of owners this was much below the value in previous years, for it is common knowledge that a down ward trend had set in before the declaration of war. However, a datum line had to be fixed and probably the most equitable adjustment between private interests and public between private interests and public needs is that which was drawn as mentioned. The capital value and current rental as in September, 1939, govern many calculations to-day. War damage has reduced or stopped the income from innumerable properties, and it is felt to be a real grievance by many owners that at only a small expense their properties could be put into a state to command a rental, but for restrictions in connection with building work. nection with building work.

LABOUR SHORTAGE

DURING the last week one of the great London firms of builders tified a West End client that the hortage prevents their resumplabour tion o work that was suspended not o, as they have now hardly long men to carry out official con-rk. In another instance the repairs has been finished, ing has to be installed. The tract but 1 y supply concern asserts to connect the consumer's with its main until the wiring has been completed. inabil Mate ls, fuse boxes, wire, conduits, forth, are virtually unobtainthat for an indefinite time to able he owner will receive no rent,

no rates and taxes will be leviable, and no rates and taxes will be leviable, and excellent accommodation is wasted. The surprising thing is that even in these circumstances the freehold is marketable, as often as not the buyer being ready to hold it for eventual reinstatement.

CURRENT PRICES AT
AUCTION

A TOTAL of just over £16,600 for 254 acres of arable and pasture in Donington, offered in lots, has been realised according to a Lincoln been realised according to a Lincoln correspondent. Somerset sales include 121 acres at Kewstoke, Weston-super-Mare, producing an annual income of £375, the price repreincome of £375, the price representing over 20 years' purchase. For 54 acres at Lexden, a delightful district near Colchester, just over £77 an acre was readily obtained at an auction a few days ago. Leicestershire farms are in demand, one of 360 acres at Appleby Magna making about £32 an acre, for a freehold let at £468 a year. For the most part, however, business under the hammer has been restricted to unimportant has been restricted to unimportant lots, realising only a few hundreds of pounds.

RURAL FREEHOLDS

RESIDENTIAL freeholds seem momentarily rather less in request than they were earlier in the year, but on the whole they are a good market, though (as a correspondent market, though (as a correspondent writes): "The majority of rep.rts of sales lack any reference to that element which is of greatest general interest, namely the price. It would be possible to formulate a fairly con-vincing argument that a little less secrecy about the price of residential properties might have the effect of stimulating business. Very often, however, I suppose, the buyers object to disclosure of this detail." Perhaps best comment on this is to point out that, in the case of an auction, prices are necessarily common knowledge concerning the lots sold under the hammer, but if any of the lots are dealt with privately afterwards in the room, agents generally refrain from disclosing the price of them.

A CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE SELLING LAND

APPROXIMATELY 1,000 acres A of freehold agricultural pro-perty in Cambridgeshire will be offered for sale by order of Trinity College, Cambridge. There will be a large cambridge. There will be a large number of lots and the auction will be held in Cambridge on July 17, by Messrs. Bidwell and Sons. All the land is exempt from tithe and land tax and much of it is of market garden quality. Possession will be given next Michaelmas of the 230 acres of Coldharbour Farm, in the parish of Over, and there are three large farms, together exceeding 600 acres, in Swavesey and adjoining parts of the

AN ASHRIDGE OFFER

ITTLE GADDESDEN freehold Ashridge estate of Lord Brownlow, include Church Farm, which with other lots will shortly be submitted by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley and Messrs. Aitchison and Co., by order of Mr. Monro Cuthbertson. An of Mr. Monro Cuthbertson. An unusual item in the coming offer will be a block of 11 little houses, called The Bede, which were provided for the use of estate pensioners. Proximity to the Bonar Law Memorial College and Ashridge Park Golf Course, and the pre-war preparations for the residential development of the neighbourhood, are factors of some importance in any forecast of the future demand for sites in this district.



song has ceased

The time of nesting is over, and the hush of summer is on the land. The potatoes must be sprayed to prevent blight, and the lambs must be put out to fatten on the aftermath jobs, these, with which members of the Women's Land Army are helping the farmer. And all the while, as they go about

the work of the farm, they're learning that it's Fisons for Fertilizers.

Women between 19 and 40 who have never done land work and would like to join the Women's Land Army should make enquiries at their nearest Employment Exchange. Women of 17 and 18 may apply direct to the Women's Land Army.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

"Abol" Hop Manure, used and recommended by thousands of gardeners and allotment-holders, will in future be called "Abol" Manure.

The Reason

"Abol" Hop Manure originally contained a large proportion of fresh hops. This supply of hops has ceased and the amount of spent hops available from the breweries is limited. "Abol" Hop Manure now contains a proportion of spent hops, other organic material of equal value for soil conditioning, and high grade plant foods. "Abol" Manure will be the same product but, since the proportion of spent hops is low, Plant Protection Ltd. has decided to delete the word "Hop" from the name of this very valuable manure.

It is essential for gardeners and allotment-holders to realise the need for applying organic materials such as dung, compost or sewage sludge in addition to manufactured manures or fertilizers in order to maintain soil fertility and condition.

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NEW BOOKS

THE PUBLIC AND ITS AUTHORS

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

HARRIET MARTINEAU

(Muller, 5s.)

(Collins, 12s. 6d.)

THE MARTYRS

(Cape, 8s. 6d.)

John Cranstoun Nevill

(Hamish Hamilton, 10s. 6d.)

RUSSIA AT WAR

PEACE IN WAR

By Edward Seago

THE PICTS AND

By Arthur Ransome

By Ilya Ehrenburg

O read such a book as Mr. John Cranstoun Nevill's Harriet Martineau, Muller has just published (5s.), is to become aware of a change in public manners. I mean in the public attitude towards writers, or at any rate in the fashion chosen for expressing that at-

titude. A hundred years ago, a writer of any distinction was liable to find himself embarrassed by the stir his presence created. This was so not only here in England; it would happen in any European country, and in America, too.

There was the case of Hans Andersen at the Swedish town of Lund. The poor man was suffering from raging toothache when the

Conninana and students of the university came to give him an ovation. Signe Toksvig, who has written a beautiful biography of him, says: "He forgot toothache and all in the terror that shock his limbs. When they came marching, several hundreds of them, and he appeared on the steps of the house, they all swept off their blue caps, standing reverently bare-headed before him. His knees trembled: he needed all his strength not to burst into tears. He was suddenly struck by his unworthiness; were they not simply making game of him?'

That is a beautiful picture of the modesty of a great artist. Wasn't it Cézanne who declined the invitation when a company of his fellow-artists wished to honour him? He was sure it was a practical joke.

DICKENS IN AMERICA

Dickens was hardly the man to suffer from either nerves or modesty, and his letters to Forster from America are full of the wonderful things happening, as he puts it, to "the inimitable." "How can I give you the faintest notion of my reception here; of the crowds that pour in and out the whole day; of the people that line the streets when I go out: of the cheering when I went to the theatre; of the copies of verses, letters of congratulation, welcomes of all kinds, balls, dinners, assemblies without end . . . of the cry that runs through the whole country?

There is nothing comparable with this in contemporary life. The mobbing receptions of film stars are another matter, ebullitions of contagious hysteria, discreditable both to the hearts and the heads of those who become heated by them. Something of interest, and perhaps of importance, might be written on the complete and rather sudden change to an attitude of reserve, or even indifference. towards artists.

The case of Harriet Martineau is a somewhat surprising one, for, though a few fragments of her work

survive to attest the reality of her artistic impulse, she was more journalist than artist, and her fame leapt up almost overnight on the strength of a book forbiddingly called Illustrations of Political Economy. She had been till then what Mr. Nevill calls "a little Her book opened deaf nonentity."

all doors. Lord Brougham took pains to be ingratiating; Lord Althorp, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, despatched his secretary to supply her with wished-for information; she was handed an official report of the Royal Commission on Excise Taxes before it had been formally set before the Ministers of the Crown and it was credibly reported that the young Princess Victoria was deriv-

ing much benefit from the Illustrations.

The Illustrations of Political Economy were not so forbidding as their title suggests. Harriet had tumbled to the profitable idea that the dullest subject can be lightened by a lively mind, and so she wrote this series of pamphlets, one appearing each month, telling, in the form of fiction, how points of political economy did really affect the daily lives of men and women. She was lucky in the moment she chose, for it was becoming apparent that the masses of the people could not much longer be excluded from education and influence; and so it was small wonder that Althorp, Brougham and the rest of them hastened to provide Harriet with the raw ingredients which she had the knack of turning into agreeable meals, seasoned to the widest tastes. She was welcomed as Dorothy M. Sayers is welcomed by the Churchmen of to-day; and I recall that a canon once assured me frankly: "Dorothy Sayers is more valuable to us than the bench of bishops.

UNCOMPROMISING

When Miss Martineau visited America, her experience was like Dickens's. Waltzes were composed in her honour, people lent her their carriages, offered her boundless hos pitality, and waited in queues to call upon her at her hotel. It must have been trying, for she was all but stone deaf. And it didn't last very long, for in her forthright uncompromising fashion, she put her foot into the angriest wasps' nest of the moment: the slavery question.

But Harriet Martineau, as you will find if you read this attractive little book, was never the one to hesitate where her own mind was made up and her conviction clear. When she became an agnostic she wrote about that, as she was prepared to write about anything (her output was terrific), despite the pain she knew this would cause her brother, the celebrated Nonconformist preacher;

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TOPODI

and when she disliked *Vilette* she did not fail to say so to Charlotte Bronte, although this meant the end of their friendship.

For all her hard work and wide popularity, she never made much Publishers worked on the principle that authors, without whom there would be no publishers at all, were entitled to the crumbs that fell from the table; and when Harriet was offered a Civil List pension she said she'd rather take parish relief. "With her customary common sense she added a somewhat acrid rider to the effect that the most practical method of assisting writers who had fallen on evil days would be to secure them better copyright laws, at home and abroad, and thus ensure to them an equitable return for their labours.

A PIONEER WOMAN

Despite bad health, she lived into her 70s, surviving for more than twenty years the writing of her Autobiography, which she had hurried through in the belief that she might die before she finished it. Mr. Nevill places her, justly, I think, with those pioneer women of the nineteenth century "who by sheer force of character broke through the male police cordon which excluded their sex from any active participation in public affairs, so that there is hardly an intellectual freedom enjoyed by the women of to-day that does not give back some far-off lingering re-echo of her voice."

Miss Martineau's remarks about copyright laws remind me that Russia is one of the countries that owe no allegiance to the Copyright Convention, which means that any publisher who thought it worth while to do so could take any book of mine and publish it without paying me a penny. There would be no redress. Whether, with or without payment, books representing England and the English war effort are being published in Russia to-day I do not know. I have heard of only two, both by the same author. But on our side we are anxious to give Russia the widest publicity. I point this out without acrimony, merely as a fact of

RUSSIAN JOURNALISM

Well, here among the many is Mr. Ilya Ehrenburg's book Russia at War, translated in a very readable fashion by Mr. Gerard Shelley (Hamish Hamilton, 10s. 6d.). Mr. Ehrenburg is the best known of the Russian war correspondents, and the book is made up of pieces, some of them very short, for the Russian newspapers. We see for the Russian newspapers. at once that the Russian and English views of a war correspondent's job differ widely. From our writers we get little but descriptions of operations, accounts of the doings of con-siderable bodies of men directed towards a wide objective. Broadly speaking, it may be said that our correspondents amplify the official communiqués and provide raw ma-terial for historians of the future.

Mr. Ehrenburg's objective is the immediate mind of the Russian reader. His method is intensely personal and aims at improving the spirits of his countrymen by describing the individual valour of Russians and the individual infamy of the Germans and the horror of their dilemma, faced with the Russian will to win. He gets much of his material out of the pockets of dead men and prisoners. A letter from home asking for booty permits him to storm; a dirty post-card carried in the same pocket with

the sweetheart's photograph uncorks his contempt. A pink foot sticking through the snow suits his style better than a co-ordinated large-scale offensive; and it is easy to see that this method, applied day after day, must be most effective on the minds of readers.

In a dead man's pockets he found a request for "some nice little presents." His comment: "We can see this greedy German hyena licking her lips, and we will say briefly: 'Madam, you expected presents. You have got what you deserved. Weep, if tears can lighten your black conscience.'"

"ANNIHILATE THEM"

He packs his phrases with hatred: "We are resolved to kill all the Germans who have invaded our country. We have no wish to torture or torment them. We simply want to annihilate them. It has fallen to the lot of our people to carry out this humane mission. We are continuing the work of Pasteur who discovered the serum against rabies." "Nietzsche would hardly recognise his disciples in these rapacious goats. The amorality of contemporary Germany is more in tune with a farm-yard than with any philosophical system."

This, you will recognise at once, is not the voice of an outside observer describing the deeds of an army: it is the voice of a people itself, crying its reactions to infamy and outrage.

I am glad all publishers do not wait for Christmas-time before publishing books which are, as we say, "ideal for presents." There are two this week, one for grown-ups and one for children: Mr. Edward Seago's Peace in War (Collins, 12s. 6d.) and Mr. Arthur Ransome's The Picts and the Martyrs (Cape, 8s. 6d.).

Mr. Seago is serving in the Army, and the peace in war to which his title refers is leave-time. Then he would take out his stool and easel and colour-bex, and recapture his old joy in painting. All the pictures here reproduced were done in that way, and what a treasurable collection it is! Clowns and rainbows, caravans and windmills, horses on the gallops at Newmarket, snow, sunshine, cloud and rain. It's a most English book—that is, the England we meet when the towns are left bebind. With each picture is a brief account of how, when and where it was painted: a fascinating glimpse into the artist's mind.

A "RANSOME" STORY

The Ransome book has all the old ingredients. Once again we are in the Lake District; once again there are youngsters amusing themselves in ingenious fashions on the fells and the water. Many characters whom we have met before turn up again and weave themselves into the now familiar pattern. If there is nothing new to report from this Lakeland front that is simply because Mr. Ransome's readers would regard anything new as outrageous. They have learned what to expect, and they have shown that they like it so much that Mr. Ransome would be a bold author indeed if his bottles did not contain the mixture as before.

ALPHA AND OMEGA

THESE things were at the beginning
And will last to the end;
A high wind and a thrush singing
As the trees bend.

ERIC CLOUGH.

Queen Mary's Book

for India

Queen Mary, of whom there is a portrait, has written a message to the mothers of India. Tributes to the Indian Forces are made by Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell, Air Marshal Sir Patrick Playfair, and Commander Anthony Kimmins; others tell of India's industrial War effort; T. S. Eliot contributes a new poem to the Anthology section of writings about India; J. A. Spender pays a personal tribute to Rabindranath Tagore; Sir Leonard Woodley, Walter de la Mare, Clemence Dane, Helen Waddell and others have also given "pieces" to this volume to which the Right Hon. L. S. Amery writes a foreword.

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A quiet novel

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A story of the original "Pilgrims" from Nottinghamshire, who went first to Holland and then made the famous voyage in the Mayflower. "A simple story told with considerable charm."—RALPH STRAUS (Sunday Times).

HARRAP_

Putdoor WORKING CLOTHES



PHOTOGRAPHS DENES

(Left) Striped cotton Morley shirt and coarse linen shorts in sail red. Marshall and Snelgrove.

(Right) White cotton mesh shirt printed with gardening tools in bright colours and a pair of saxe blue linen slacks. Harvey Nichols.

(Below) Dog-tooth check Saxony tweed slacks and a coarse boucle rayon sweater, both from Marshall and Snelgrove. Both come in various colours and different checks.



LACKS, though perhaps not worn quite so universally as at the beginning of the war, are still being bought by the thousand. They make the most practical of workaday outfits for the country woman, save stockings and, provided one is reasonably slim and tall, look well. Boiler suits in blue and khaki denim are on sale everywhere for fire-watchers and as overalls for outdoor work.

Almost every kind of tough, hard-wearing fabric is being made up into slacks—gabardine, tweeds, both plain and in small dice checks, suitings and flannels, plain, checked and striped, linen-like rayons, velveteen, corduroy—and there are still a few in precious pre-war linens an linen tweeds. All slacks are cut on orthodox lines. The wide bell-bottomed effects are out of favour and were, in any case, never flattering to the female form, so they go unmourned. Colours, on the whole, are orthodox too Greys and navys predominate, but all the dark shades—plum, bottle green and a range of deep slate blues—are attractive. The colour of your slacks should mix well with the odd jackets and skirts in your wardrobe, and with all accessories such as shirts, sweaters and belts.

Row upon row of slacks hang neatly creased in the shops. The classic flannels lead in popularity. Corduroy is nearly as hot a favourite, but more difficult to come by. The dice and dog-tooth checked tweeds of the fine, firm Saxony variety are dashing on a tall, slim woman and come in lovely colour mixtures, corn yellow, blue with two warm browns on an oatmeal ground, or green, coral red and gold. Marshall and Snelgrove have them, also attractive velveteen slacks, in plum, green and russet brown, suitable for wearing in the garden or by the fire in the winter. The linen slacks and shorts in sail red are good with most colour schemes and can be worn effectively with very bright contrasts for shirts, such as corn yellow, violet or indigo blue. Black with natural colour is featured by Fortnum and Mason, has great verve—black





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linen tweed shorts, a long-sleeved sweater in camel wool in its natural shade, or a short-sleeved, open-necked linen shirt in same natural colour, circled by a light pigskin leather belt. The only spot of colour permitted is the scarlet or emerald rims of the dark glasses, perhaps picked up again on the ankle socks. Black sweaters with natural coloured linen shorts are another version of this black and camel combine. The fabrics are all tough and hard-wearing. Long-sleeved spunsilk sweaters in pastel shades at Fortnum and Mason are shown with tan-coloured linen or tweed slacks and there are pastel box jackets in a thick fleecy woollen to tone. Cotton triangles for the hair match up exactly to other accessories.

The accessories for these country slacks are among the most attractive items of war-time fashion. There are all kinds of plain cashmere sweaters and twin sets, pre-war in quality, and the same thing goes for the Shetlands.

It is new to have your sweaters or cardigans bound at the edges rather than finished with the usual narrow webbing. The cardigan-sweater which buttons down the front and has a turn-The cardigan-sweater down collar is a coupon saver. These collars tend to be bound rather than knitted in narrow rib in the ordinary way. Peter Robinson show broad ribbed woollen cardigan-sweaters with narrow bands of plain knitting bordering the revers. These button down the front and are made in large sizes as well as small. The downward lines are slimming and the coarseness of the weave is a great change after the many smooth, sleek cashmeres. Colours for these ribbed cardigans are flannel grey, old gold, dusty pink, turquoise, ice blue and cherry.



Laced wedge shoes for your slacks and tweeds—grained and smooth calf in contrasting colours, photographed in tan and green, and reversed calf, navy or brown, with snakeskin wedge. Both Joyce shoes.

THE many striped shirtings make the shirt departments in the stores look as fresh as All kinds of neat details are permitted on these shirts; some have the open neckline, others the stiffened turn-down collar close to the throat, but every line is tailored as impec-cably as a man's shirt for a lounge suit. Checked "Dayella" makes splendid long-sleeved shirts for winter. The two-coloured duster checked "Dayellas" are manufactured in five sizes and a mass of cheerful colours. They make up very effectively. Peter Robinson have some really hard-wearing shirts in Panama fabric, a close, firm, meshed cotton and rayon mixture. These shirts have extra length; so they tuck well into slacks and there is plenty of leeway when doing strenuous exercise. They are made with turn-

down collars, in four sizes. Colou are white, scarlet, blue, brown yellow, sail red, moss green, and they cost 13s. 9d. Harvey Nichols porous mesh cotton shirt with it gay, small pattern of garden too is a charming novelty. The line shirts are excellent for hot weath and wash superbly. There are still a few in pastel pinks and lemon yellow. White wafle pink and looks neat as a new pin, is a bit dressy for some slacks, thic with navy or grey. These pines have the wide shoulder made by seame section like a sock heel and or patch pocket. The new 1 ygash winterweave, a thick, fin rayo with a warm "handle" and finish that gives the app-rance wool, will be in the shop oon. tailors well and comes i cheerf colours with still brighte ones f piping and pockets. Soutstanding in this ramixes well with the red ge ar 10colat browns that make so ma v twee slacks. This weave tailored into sleevele Suèd jerkins that act as wind reakers

A sail red jerkin over a canary yellow s irt, wit crottal brown slacks, makes a splendid autumna combination. This red is smart with emeral green, a shade that is being shown in almost all the fabric collections for the early winter either as a secondary colour for accessories of trimmings, or as a tone on tone herring-bone for an entire jacket, suit or skirt.

There are any amount of low-heeled laced casual country shoes for all these outfits. The ordinary flat walking shoes are newest in deep reddish brown or the colour of light pigskin, Many of these are in two colours with the light shade applied as a broad bracelet band, edged with punching. Joyce are making a wedge shoe in two bright colours.

P. JOYCE REYNOLDS,

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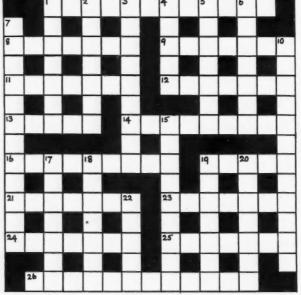
Gin makes the cocktail, Seagers make the Gin!

PER 25/3 BOTTLE

SEAGER, EVANS & CO..LTD.

ROSSWORD

, London, W.C.2," and must reach training of Thursday, July 22, 1943.



Name_____(Mr., Mrs., etc.) Address.

**SOLUTION TO No. 702. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of July 9, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Pound foolish; 8, Antre; 9, Catholics; 11, Glasshouse; 12, Apes; 14, Rebels; 15, Clarence; 17, Increase; 19, Assess; 22, Norm; 23, Starvation; 25, Londoners; 26, Ocrea; 27, Tandem cycles.

DOWN.—1, Pet lamb; 2, Uneasy lies; 3, Doctor; 4, Obtusely; 5, Lion; 6, Shippen; 7, Danger signal; 10, Sisters-in-law; 13, Dress a doll; 16, Isotherm; 18, Corunna; 20, Emigres; 21, Frisky; 24, Good.

ACROSS

- 1. A dish from the Principality? (two words, 5, 7)
- 8. What fine words cannot butter (7) 9. A snake at heart, he is very acquisitive (7)
- 11. Mentally picture (7)
- 12. You will certainly make a slip in this
- 13. "Full of strange -
- 14. Salt water bounded (two words, 6, 3)
- 16. He aims at bringing about a conflict of nations (9)
- 19. His castle is on Hampstead Heath (5)
- 21. Superlatively neat (7)
- 23. Where sprang the fountains of the Muses (7)
- 24. Cock-a-doodle-doo! (7)
- 25. American song-writer and author a Maryland (7)
- 26. It's presently (anagr.) (12)

DOWN

- 1. Looks like 16's mouthings, but may be held for his arrest! (7)
- 2. Vegetables (7)
- 3. Stick a pin round the pen and a hag on the outside (9)
- 4. Range into wrath? (5)
- 5. Prevarication (7)
- 6. Young devils swallow the beer (7)
- 7. Jack and Jill's objective (four words, 1, 4, 2, 5)
- 10. He slept for 20 years (three word 3, 3, 6 15. Tennyson wrote of its tufts
- plumelets' (two words, 5, 4)
- 17. To which Burns likehed his log (two words, 3, 4)

 18. Electra's brother (7)

 19. To confine the hair, or maybe a betterfly, but useless to the fisherms (two words, 4, 3)

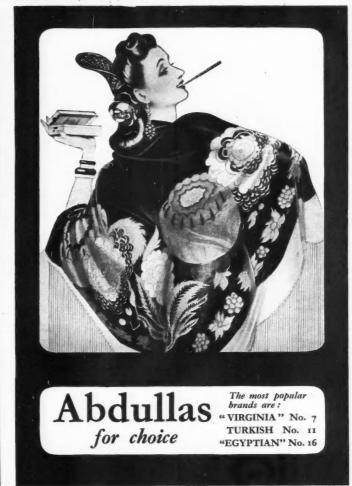
 20. Admonition to a treaton baby (7)

20. Admonition to a treetop baby (7 22. Intruders in the wheatfield (5))1 is The winner of Crossword No.

Mr. T. Ogden,

90, Hamlet Gardens, London, V.6.







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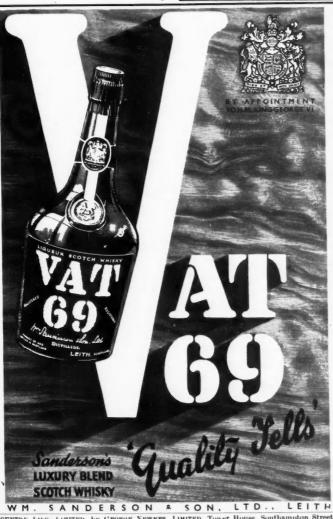
Raspberries and loganberries are some of the best fruit for bottling. Done the simple and sure Snap Vacuum Closure way they will be just as fresh and inviting when you open them next winter as they are when bottled - and what a treat for the family in the fruitless months!

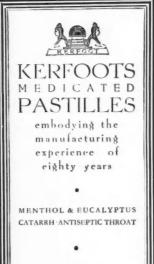
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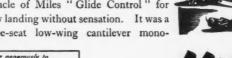


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expanding air programme were being demanded for the R.A.F. and still more of the now-famous Miles Master-fast advanced Monoplane Trainer for the Monoplane Pilots of the R.A.F.



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